THE BUILDER

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TOWN PLANNING AND OBSOLESCENCE

THERE are various reasons other than structural decay for houses becoming obsolete, but the most important is that of their having been designed to meet certain social demands, which have so definitely changed as to require something quite different. The most obvious example of this is to be seen in London (and in a lesser proportion in other large cities) where we find an extensive "west end" composed of masses of spacious four- or five-storey houses, built for the upper middle classes, and involving the employment of a large and competent domestic staff. The former occupants have tended to move towards the outskirts into smaller houses with gardens and better equipment, which can be run by much smaller staffs.

The large town house may pass over to use for business or professional purposes, but there will remain a large surplus which can only be utilised by sub-division. As generally practised, this sub-division has been anything but satisfactory; the house as a single unit is divided up, a minimum amount of extra equipment is added, and the tenants have to make the best of what results. In some cases the adaptation is so perfunctory that these substantial houses have rapidly degenerated into slums.

What is lacking at the present time is a clearly defined system by which houses may be divided up. The process should be carefully studied and the methods adopted should be both economically sound and sociologically adequate. It would be advisable to deal with large houses in pairs or groups in order to justify the introduction of fire-resisting stairs and of lifts, while certain minimum requirements should be fixed as regards sanitary arrangements and cooking facilities at least equal to those usual in up-to-date blocks of dwellings. The basement, unless exceptionally airy and well lit, could not be offered for residential purposes, but it would be useful if central heating were adopted, and for storage or other purposes.

The problem of the large terrace house is, while perhaps the most urgent, only one of many discussed in a recently issued pamphlet.* Among these others we may single out the axiom that not only the house but also neighbourhood planning demands revision. Sites, either accidentally or purposefully cleared, must be utlised for communal buildings or open spaces which have hitherto, in many large areas, been inadequate if not entirely absent. The opportunity to improve the layout of streets in the interests of health, safety and convenience also has its place in this programme.

This same problem of obsolete houses is touched on in a pamphlet recently to hand from Ireland.† The pamphlet, which gives an outline of town planning activities there, is in two sections of equal length, the first dealing with Eire by Mr. Manning Robertson, F.R.I.B.A., etc., and the second with Northern Ireland by Mr. R. S. Wilshere, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I. The most important item consists of the programme for the future development of Dublin, which has as its basis the prize competition plan of 1914 with Professor Abercrombie, Mr. S. Kelly and Mr. Manning Robertson appointed by the Corporation in 1936 as consultants to guide operations, the Act making statutory planning possible having been passed in 1934.

The main problem in Dublin lies in the overcrowding of the four- or five-storey Georgian houses—once the dignified homes of the well-to-do, but now degenerated into tenements and containing up to seven or eight families in each house. The resulting decayed areas lie mostly north of the river, and in the worser cases a great deal of pulling down has been done, the occupants being rehoused in new, up-to-date flats or in suburban housing schemes. It is not visualised that the fine streets and squares of the eighteenth century should be swept away if it is possible to utilise them, and it is suggested that they could be altered, remodelled, and reconditioned to be let as flats at economic rents, possibly to the numerous "black-coated" workers drawn to Dublin by its administrative functions.

It is advocated that the area to be occupied by buildings should not extend beyond a radius of two miles from the centre, and this area would be liberally provided with open spaces, parks and parkways. Outside this an open zone would be retained for agricultural, recreational and other purposes, including large parks to the north-east and south-east, in addition to the existing Phœnix Park on the west. It is not intended that development should cease around Dublin, but that it would be concentrated in urban "satellites," mainly extensions of existing towns and villages.

The replanning of Cork and Limerick is also receiving Mr. Manning Robertson's attention; in the case of Cork, the displacement of the inhabitants of slums is comparatively easy, as the depressed areas are thinly populated, being mainly in the form of single-storey cottages, like country villages in the midst of a city. A proposal of especial interest is that for transforming the present tidal creek at Douglas into a freshwater lake some 200 acres in extent with a fine public park surrounding it only two miles from the centre of the city. Limerick has in hand two Corporation housing estates and has run a fine road of a total width of 106 ft. to connect these with the Central Station.

To pass on to the section on Northern Ireland, mainly dealing with Belfast, we find this to be in large measure a record of disappointed hopes and lost opportunities. At the same time it is realised that much can yet be done, and the Government's invitation to Mr. W. R. Davidge to prepare a national scheme and the acceptance of his report promises to ensure that active steps will be taken in the near future. A recent exhibition, "Belfast Replanned," organised by a group of young Belfast and Dublin architects working in collaboration, demonstrated that the necessary skill and imagination are available, so that the many demands Belfast makes on the abilities of the planner may be satisfied. Mr. Wilshere's attitude towards the principle of town planning is sound and inspiring.

* Planning, No. 218 (Old Houses), PEP, 16, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1.
† Town Planning, Ireland. The Irish Association. Pamphlet No. 2. 6d.

NOTES AND NEWS

Reconstruction Committee Reject Uthwatt Plan?

THE Housing Debate in the House of Commons on Wednesday was expected to produce an official statement to the effect that Lord Woolton's Reconstruction Committee of the War Cabinet is now considering the future of the Uthwatt Report's proposals for compensation and betterment in the planning of use of land. The debate took place after we went to press, but it was understood that, in effect, the Uthwatt proposals for vesting development rights over virgin land in the State would be definitely turned down by the Government.

The B.B.C. Looks at the Housing Problem.

A NEW technique is being adopted by the B.B.C. to deal with the subject of houses, how many of them, what sort, and how soon. Eight meetings of a court of inquiry will be held at the microphone between March 21 and April 3. The meetings will vary in length, but it is hoped within the fortnight to complete a broad and authoritative survey of the whole field. The chairman of the court—whose proceedings will be informal and friendly—is to be Mr. G. O. Slade, K.C. He will be assisted by two representative members of the public—Mrs. Doris White, the young wife of a sailor from Bermondsey, and Mr. C. S. McCulloch, a business man with thirty years' experience of social work in Glasgow. This tribunal of three will call witnesses, experts in their various fields, witnesses from commerce, finance, and labour, from central authority and local authorities, from the ranks of planners and anti-planners. "What is a house?" is clearly a fundamental question to be tackled. "What is prefabrication?" "What is standardisation?" "What is meant by 'community planning'?" These are others which need defining. Then there are the new methods of construction to be considered, the promise held out by science of further labour-saving devices, and so on. At the end of each session the chairman will sum up the evidence. These talks will be given in the evening on the Home Service.

The "Burt Committee" Report.

THE Report of the Interdepartmental Committee on House Construction (the "Burt Committee") is now being printed and will be published late this month under the title of "House Construction." Since the receipt of this Report the three Ministers concerned have reconstituted the Committee and agreed fresh terms of reference.

The new composition of the Committee is as follows:—*Members.*—Sir George Burt, F.I.O.B. (Chairman); R. Coppock, C.B.E.; Louis de Soissons, O.B.E., A.R.A., F.R.I.B.A., S.A.D.G.; A. B. Gardner, F.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.A.S.; L. H. Keay, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A.; R. T. James, M.Inst.C.E.; J. W. Laing, F.I.O.B., F.A.R.P.I.; J. R. McKay, F.R.I.B.A.; G. M. McNaughton, B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., M.I.Mech.E.; G. W. Mitchell. *Secretary.*—W. A. Procter. *Technical Officer.*—A. M. Chitty, M.A., F.R.I.B.A. The Ministry of Works, the Ministry of Health, the Department of Health of Scotland, and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research will be represented by observers.

The new terms of reference of the Committee are:—"To advise the Minister of Works, the Minister of Health, and the Secretary of State for Scotland on materials and methods of construction for the building of houses and flats; in particular, to advise on the experimental work in connection with house building being carried out by the Ministry of Works."

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

ARTICLES.	Page
LEADER : Town Planning and Obsolescence	211
CORRESPONDENCE	219
FINSBURY SHELTERS : Law Cases	221
MACHINERY AND PLANT : Address by Sir George Burt ...	223
FIRE INSURANCE SURVEYING	224
WAGES, PRICES CURRENT	225-7
FUTURE CONSTRUCTION	228-30

ILLUSTRATIONS.

MERCHANT NAVY HOUSE, LEITH. By J. Lennie and Howard Robertson, F.R.I.B.A. 214

CITY OF LEICESTER : Interim Replanning Scheme. By John L. Beckett, M.Inst.C.E. 218

Experimental Building Development.

THE Controller of Experimental Building Development was appointed in June, 1943, to encourage and facilitate practical experiments and demonstrations of new building materials and new methods, including prefabricated components. He works closely with the Interdepartmental Committee on House Construction under the Chairmanship of Sir George Burt.

During the last eight months, 559 proposals have been submitted by local authorities and private enterprise, a large proportion of which were sufficiently developed for submission to the Burt Committee.

So far 143 proposals have been found suitable for further development and consideration: 87 of these are for complete houses, 23 are sub-assemblies, installations, fittings and prefabricated components, and 33 are new materials, structural units and miscellaneous items.

Certified building experiments which have already started or are about to start total 55. These figures do not include the demonstration houses now being built by the Ministry of Works. Anyone who requires the assistance of the Ministry regarding a scheme, whatever stage it has reached, should send details to the Controller of Experimental Building Development, Ministry of Works, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.

Mr. A. J. Munnings Elected P.R.A.

MR. ALFRED JAMES MUNNINGS, painter, has been elected President of the Royal Academy, and the King has signified his approval of the appointment. Mr. Munnings, who is 65, is a Suffolk man who has exhibited at the Academy since 1898. He became A.R.A. in 1919 and R.A. in 1925.

A Course for U.S. and Canadian Forces.

A COURSE in architecture and town and country planning for architects and architectural students serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and Canada, arranged by the Liverpool School of Architecture in association with the British Council, is to be held at Liverpool from March 20 to 24. The course includes lectures on Architectural Education (Professor L. B. Budden), Municipal Housing (Mr. L. H. Keay), Modern Polish Architecture (Mr. Boleslaw Szmidt), Contemporary Ecclesiastical Architecture (Mr. B. A. Miller), An English Village (Mr. W. A. Eden), and Reconstruction and Planning (Professor W. G. Holford), and there is a full programme of exhibitions, receptions and visits to buildings and places of interest in and around Liverpool. Any inquiries with regard to the course should be addressed to Mrs. R. M. Day, Assistant Director, The British Council, 1, Basnett-street, Liverpool, 1.

Dr. Stradling's New Appointment.

THE Minister of Works, with the concurrence of the Minister of Home Security, has appointed Dr. R. E. Stradling to the newly-created position of Chief Scientific Adviser in the Ministry of Works. Dr. Stradling will retain his post of Chief Adviser in Research and Experiments in the Ministry of Home Security.

This new appointment in the Ministry of Works is designed to secure the greatest possible measure of co-ordination between scientific knowledge and research on the one hand, and the practical development of building technique on the other. Dr. Stradling was before the war Director of the Building Research Station, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Services' Architectural Correspondence Course.

AT the request of the War Office, Mr. L. Stuart Stanley, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I., Tutor in the Bartlett School of Architecture, London University, has placed his Correspondence Courses of tuition for the examinations of the R.I.B.A. (Intermediate and Final) at the disposal of members of the Forces. Applicants wishing to qualify, or those who wish to read subjects culturally, should apply to their Commanding Officer (or Unit Education Officer) for the necessary enrolment forms, or to the Assistant Principal, A.E.3, The War Office, 44, Eaton-square, London, S.W.1. The fee is 10s., and textbooks are free.

Scottish Town Planning Competition.

ENTRIES for the Sir William E. Whyte competition, organised by the Scottish National Housing and Town Planning Council, were submitted by 21 competitors, including members of H.M. Forces. Mr. W. Dobson Chapman, L.R.I.B.A., F.I.L.A. (President of the Town Planning Institute), the adjudicator, has made the following award: 1st, Mr T. Warnett Kennedy, D.A., A.R.I.A.S., A.M.T.P.I., 7, Hamilton-drive, Glasgow, W.2, who dealt with Peebles; 2nd, Mr. W. Coutts Youngson, The Haven, Craigmillar-avenue, Milngavie, who dealt with Milngavie; and 3rd, Mr. Robert Meldrum, A.M.Inst.C.E., A.M.T.P.I., Burntisland Burgh Surveyor, 51, Mid-street, Fraserburgh, who took Burntisland as his subject.

Professional Announcement.

THE consulting practice of Mr. Herbert G. Hoskings, M.Inst.C.E., M.Cons.E., M.Inst.W.E., chartered civil engineer, will henceforth be carried on in association with Mr. Arthur R. Gundry, M.I.M.E., M.I.E.E., chartered mechanical and electrical engineer, at 39, Victoria-street, S.W.1, under the name of Hoskings and Gundry (Associated).

From *The Builder* of 1844

Saturday, March 16, 1844. *Price* 3*d.*

MEN of the law, indeed, appear always to have grown fidgety and inattentive under building technicalities. Hence has arisen that whenever any proposal for a new Metropolitan Building Act has appeared there has not in general been apparent that verbal nicety, that freedom from ambiguity, that terseness of expression, that absolute barrier against even torturing the language into any signification other than the one plainly intended to be conveyed by the words which should be found in every good and carefully framed Statute, and in which labour few besides lawyers are indeed commonly adept.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING POLICY

MR. WILLINK'S STATEMENT.

IN a statement made in the House of Commons on March 8, the Minister of Health (MR. H. U. WILLINK) referred to the Government's housing policy for the first two years after the end of war in Europe.

"During that period," he said, "our primary task must be to meet the urgent needs of those who have no homes of their own. These could not be fully met or met with sufficient speed by building new houses of permanent construction. In addition, we shall have to undertake a substantial amount of emergency housing both by adapting existing buildings and by providing temporary accommodation of various kinds. The Minister of Works has already outlined the preparations that are being made in the sphere of temporary housing. The object of this statement is to indicate the lines on which the Government propose to proceed, simultaneously with the construction of new houses of a permanent type. Both types, the permanent and the temporary, are complementary parts of a single Government policy for providing the largest possible number of new homes during these first two years.

"To enable local authorities to make an early start, as soon as conditions permit, with the construction of new houses of a permanent type, the Government have decided to introduce temporary legislation extending the present scope of housing subsidies so as to include dwellings built to meet general needs. Local authorities will be enabled to buy in advance land required for these housing operations, using compulsory powers if necessary. And Parliament will be asked to empower the responsible Ministers, as after the last war, to confirm compulsory purchase orders for the acquisition of land for housing purposes without holding an inquiry. The Secretary of State for Scotland and I are informing local authorities of these decisions to-day. We hope to be able to introduce the necessary legislation shortly after the Easter recess.

"Meanwhile, I am to-day inviting representatives of the associations of local authorities and of the London County Council to meet me at an early date to discuss the arrangements for housing subsidies. The local authorities will be invited to proceed on the basis that all preliminary preparations should be made to ensure that, if building resources should permit, 100,000 houses can be completed or under construction by the close of the first year after the end of hostilities in Europe and a further 200,000 by the close of the second year. These 300,000 houses will be in addition to those built under the programme of temporary construction. The decisions and the programme to which I have referred cover Scotland as well as England and Wales.

"This statement has necessarily been brief. There are still many important decisions to be taken, including the part to be played by private enterprise. These will, I can assure the House, be taken at the earliest possible moment. The Governmen considered, however, that in view of the keen interest which is taken in this vital subject the House would wish to be informed of these decisions at the first opportunity."

In the debate which followed, SIR A. BEIT asked if any decision had yet been reached as to the price which was to be paid for the land which the local authorities were to be allowed to purchase compulsorily.

MR. WILLINK: The position under the law as it stands at present is that if agreement is not reached the land will be acquired under the terms of the Acquisition of Land Act.

MR. UPSON asked what was the target for temporary houses in the two years after the war, but MR. WILLINK said that he could not give any figure for the moment.

Later, MR. EDEN stated that a day would be given for a debate on housing during the next series of sittings.

This took place on Wednesday last.

OTHER PARLIAMENTARY NEWS

The Subsidy.

MR. CRAVEN-ELLIS asked the Minister of Health whether he was aware that the subsidy for house building given only to local authorities would result in private enterprise building only for sale, and that owing to the shortage of homes many people would be compelled to purchase their homes; and how did he propose to deal with this situation.

MR. WILLINK said that the need for building houses for letting was among the matters under investigation by the Sub-Committee of his Central Housing Committee, which was considering the whole question of building by private enterprise after the war. Pending the submission and consideration of the Sub-Committee's report, he was not in a position to make a statement in the matter.

MR. CRAVEN-ELLIS: Is the Minister aware that the Committee which has been sitting on the question as to what private enterprise shall do in housing after the war has been sitting for many months? Would it not be better if he would tell private enterprise the kind of job that had to be done, and leave it to them to organise it?

MR. WILLINK: The Committee's report is now in preparation.

Estimate of New Houses.

MR. CRAVEN-ELLIS asked the Minister of Health what was the number of local authorities involved in his estimate of 4,000,000 new houses required.

MR. WILLINK said that the figures he had given related to England and Wales, and covered all the 1,469 housing authorities.

Preservation of Buildings.

MR. COLEGATE asked the Minister of Town and Country Planning what powers his Ministry possessed with regard to preserving buildings and sites which could be regarded as of national importance in contradistinction to those which concerned more peculiarly the local authority in which they might be situated.

MR. W. S. MORRISON said that apart from the limited power which he had under Section 17 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, to approve an Order made by a local authority for the preservation of a building of special architectural or historic interest, he had at present no power to preserve an existing building. The provision of further powers for this purpose was under consideration in connection with future legislation. In regard to sites, the existing Acts empowered him to prevent the development of any site for a purpose inconsistent with national requirements, but did not enable him to secure its use for a particular purpose.

Repairs.

LIEUT.-COLONEL DOWER asked the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Works whether he would except cases of burst pipes and leaking roofs from the rule that where £100 had been expended on a single house in a period of 12 months no further repair might be carried out in that period without a certificate of essentiality from the local authority and a licence from M.O.W.

MR. HICKS said that work such as that described could be carried out without licence if it was urgently necessary and was done in circumstances of emergency which rendered it impracticable to obtain a licence beforehand. No certificate of essentiality was required from the local authority, but the Ministry of Works Regional Licensing Officer should be notified as soon as possible.

Housing—Repair of War Damage.

MAJOR LYONS asked the Minister of Health whether he could give figures showing to date the progress made by local authorities in the repair of enemy-damaged houses and flats and the aggregate cost thereof; and whether he was satisfied with the speed of progress made in this direction.

MR. H. WILLINK: Up to January 31 more than two and three-quarter million houses had been given first-aid repairs, and one and a quarter million of these had received more extended repairs. The cost of these repairs cannot be stated as it will be some time before all the claims for reimbursement of expenditure are received. Claims from local authorities amounting to £60,000,000 have, however, been certified by my Department to date, and passed to the War Damage Commission.

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday, March 21.

HOUSING CENTRE. Dr. Kathe Liepmann on "The Journey to Work" 13, Suffolk-street, S.W.1. 1.15 p.m.

Thursday, March 23.

INSTITUTION OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS. Mr. D. T. Lloyd-Jones on "The New Approach to the Aesthetics of Engineering Structures." 11, Upper Belgrave-street, S.W.1. 2.30 p.m.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ASSOCIATION.—Annual Meeting. 2.45 p.m. Sir Montague Barlow to speak at Luncheon, 12.45 p.m. Waldorf Hotel, W.C.2.

Friday, March 24.

ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION COUNCIL. Annual Meeting, 2 p.m., followed by Council Meeting, 4 p.m. 66, Portland-place, W.1.

INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS. Mr. J. F. Kayser to introduce discussion on "Surface Finish." Storey's-gate, S.W. 5.30 p.m.

Saturday, March 25.

ASSOCIATION OF BUILDING TECHNICIANS.—Annual General Meeting. Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge-road, S.W.1. 2 p.m.

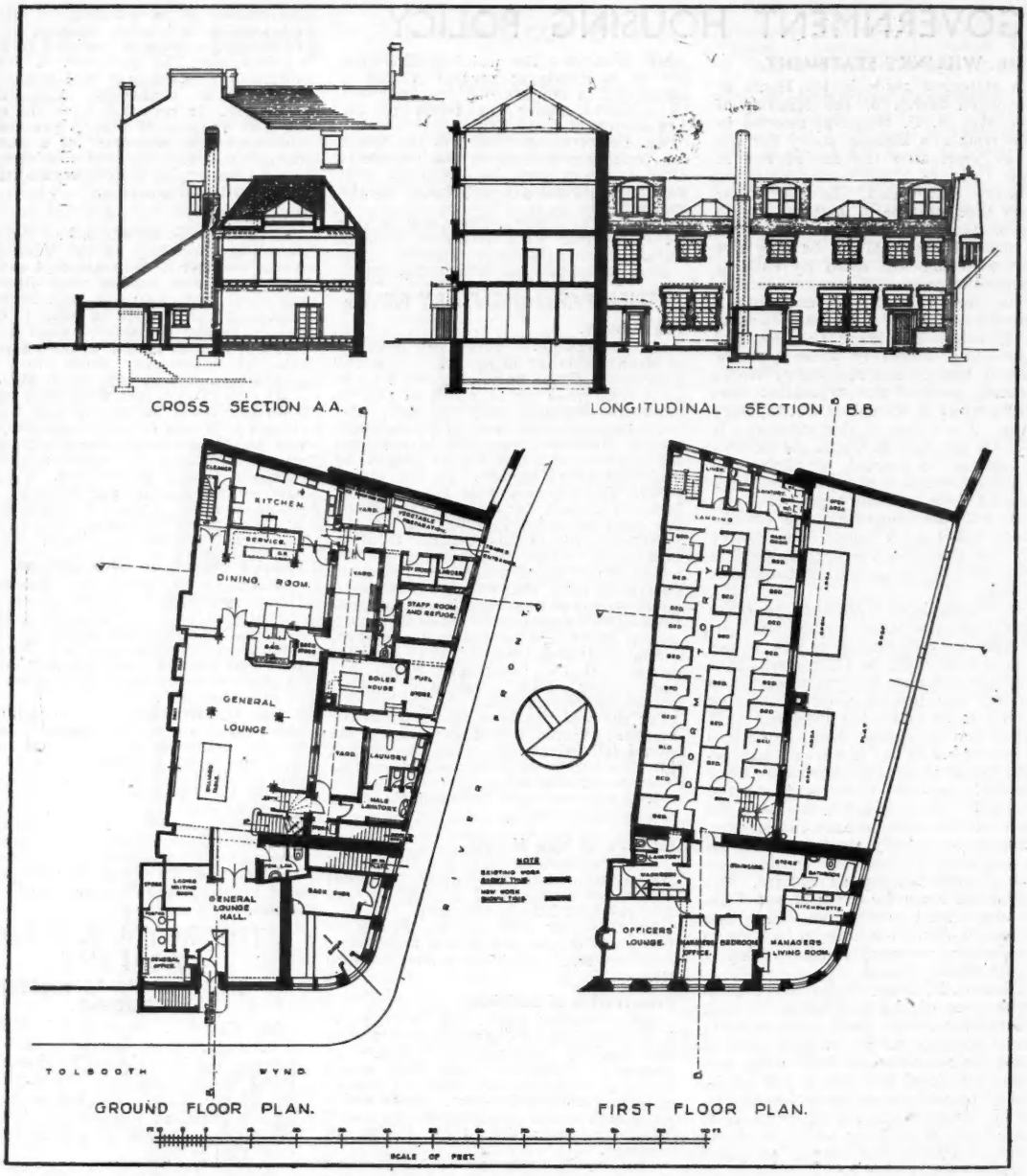
THE ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY

MR. F. C. MEARS ELECTED PRESIDENT.

MR. FRANK C. MEARS, R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.I.B.A., the architect and town planner, has been elected President of the Royal Scottish Academy in succession to Sir George Pirie. The last architect to become President was the late Sir George Washington Browne, who filled the office from 1924 to 1933.

Born at Tynemouth in 1880, Mr. Mears was educated at George Watson's School, Edinburgh, and the Edinburgh School of Art. An associate of the late Sir Patrick Geddes, he worked with him on the University and National Library of Jerusalem, and on the Scottish Zoological Park, Edinburgh. The designs for the Sanderson Memorial Homes at Galashiels, the restoration of Huntly House, Edinburgh, the Livingstone Memorial at Blantyre, bridges on the Fort William-Inverness road, and the George VI Bridge at Aberdeen are also his work.

Town planning schemes by him have been adopted by Greenock and Stirling, and he has worked on post-war planning schemes for Midlothian, East Lothian, Fife, and Aberdeenshire. In December he was appointed consultant architect to the Central and South-East Scotland Regional Planning Committee. He is a member of the Committee on Scottish Coalfields. He was elected an Academician of the Royal Scottish Academy in February of last year.



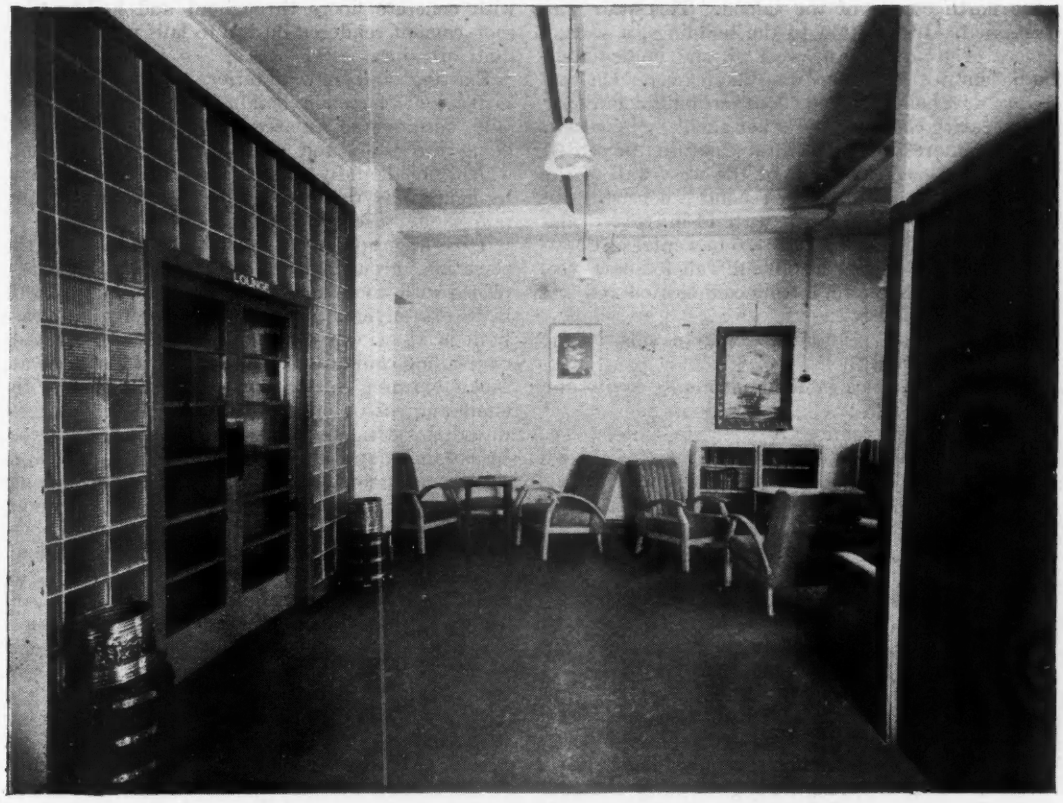
MERCHANT NAVY HOUSE, LEITH

J. LENNIE, ARCHITECT. HOWARD ROBERTSON, F.R.I.B.A., CONSULTANT.

MERCHANT NAVY HOUSE, LEITH, HAS RECENTLY been opened as a hostel for officers and men of the Merchant Navy, housed in old premises in Tolbooth Wynd, adapted to plans by Mr. J. Lennie, of the Ministry of Works, and Mr. Howard Robertson, F.R.I.B.A., S.A.D.G., the latter acting in his capacity as consulting architect for the National Service Hostels Corporation, Ltd. (Ministry of Labour and National Service).

The premises were chosen because of their proximity to a main entrance to the docks, their prominent position on a traffic route and because of the possibility they offered for adaptation to a Merchant Navy House of appropriate expression and individual character, particularly as regards interior treatment.

Although of far from recent construction and a somewhat forlorn aspect, the general condition, structurally, was sound. The building consisted of ground and first floors of a tenement, to the south of which a large saloon had been added under a previous adaptation. The saloon was also of two floors, ground and first, the latter being in the form of a balustraded gallery around two wells, through which light was conveyed to the ground floor from lanterns in the roof. Passage from ground to first floor of both parts of the premises was by a comfortable wooden stair in



GENERAL LOUNGE HALL.

THE DINING-ROOM.

MERCHANT NAVY HOUSE, LEITH.

the north corner of the saloon. This stair was retained. In addition to the buildings, a vacant piece of ground to the west of, and immediately adjacent to the saloon was taken over. On this site a new building of one floor was built containing the heating chamber and other ancillary functions.

An interesting structural feature presented itself in the construction of the west wall of the saloon. This was of "box bond" consisting of two skins of 4½-in. brick with 14-in. cavity and 4½-in. vertical bonders at 3-ft. 6-in. centres. Forming openings in this box bond wall for new steel sashes was, therefore, a trifle complicated and was executed as follows:—

(*a*) Precast reinforced concrete sills, in one piece, inserted;

(*b*) 4½-in. brick jambs built across cavity and on tails of sills;

(*c*) precast reinforced concrete lintels, two at 9 in. by 6 in. to each opening inserted. A felt D.P.C. was laid over cavity between lintels and the soffit was completed with expanded metal lath and cement rendered.

In planning the adaptations, variety and avoidance of institutional formality was aimed at particular attention being paid to ensuring a broad and distinctive atmosphere in reception to the house. General lounge, recreation, dining and cooking facilities are concentrated on the ground floor; and dormitory, ablution, quiet room and control on the first floor. The dormitory is "cubiclised" and to do this, the beams and trimmers supporting the first floor of the saloon required strengthening to carry the additional load imposed by new floors between the galleries and by cubicle partitions. This strengthening was done by erecting 14-in. brick piers at appropriate points, the effect on the apartments in which the piers were located being very pleasing.

Partitions in the main are of brick or breeze, according to the nature of the floors supporting them. All new windows except those in the north elevation, ground floor, are of steel fixed direct to brickwork. The new building to the west is of 11-in. hollow brick walls pointed on both sides, with concrete floors throughout and hollow tile roof cement rendered on top to falls with tar and sand dressing.

Existing and new interior wall and ceiling surfaces of the main building are plastered, the only surfaces so treated in the new building being the walls and ceiling of the staff room, which, incidentally, also varies in construction by being fully reinforced so as to form a staff air raid shelter as well.

Two large plate-glass windows in the north elevation, ground floor, were removed and replaced with wood sashes, mullioned and astragalled in Scots divide. The bar counter-front was built in 2½ in. wire-cut facing bricks with rebated oversailing course at top and suitable toe space at foot. Opening to the bar was lintelled with similar bricks on end and a rustic effect was produced by the unsymmetrical placing of these bricks in groups of two or three in-and-out band projecting slightly from wall face. As the existing stair in the general lounge was out of character with the new scheme, the heavily moulded balustrade was covered with a metal lath and cement rendered between stringer and underside of handrail, while the panelled and finialled newel posts were refitted with simple caps and their panels concealed with plates. Between the general lounge hall and the general lounge, the partition containing the double doors was erected in glass bricks, a panel of the same type of brick being built into the wall of the ladies' lavatory as a means of borrowing light from the north windows.

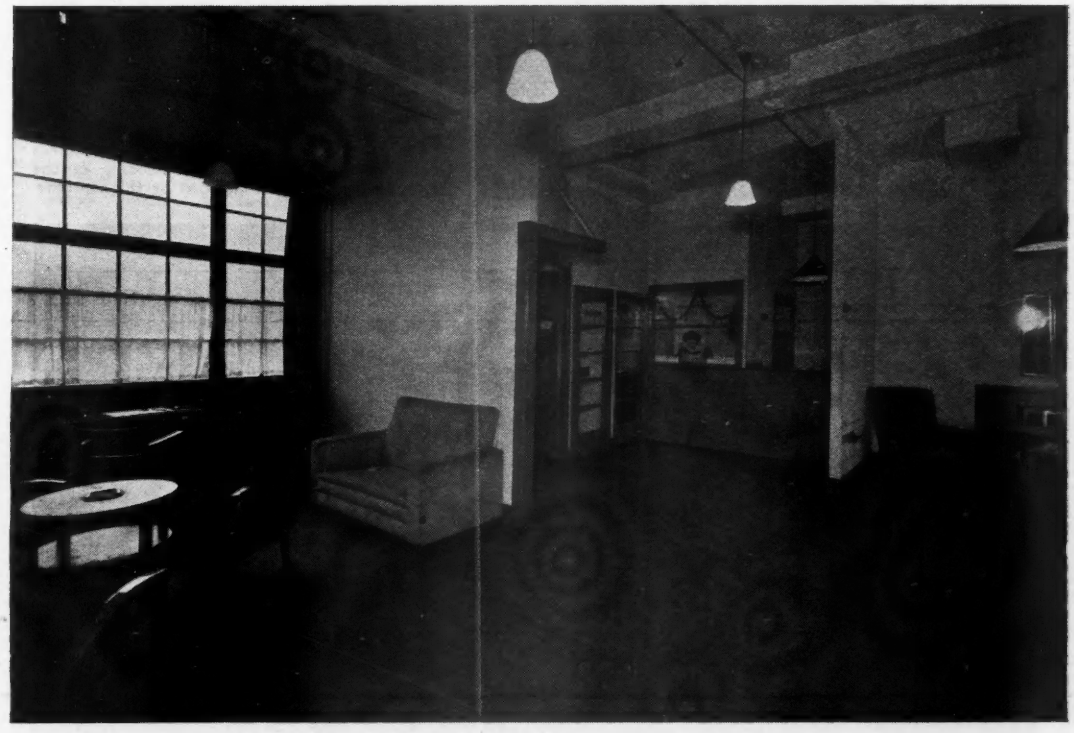
Decoration was carried out on the lines of the standard scheme applied generally by the National Service Hostels Corporation, Ltd.; taking the general lounge as an example, the side walls of this apartment are distempered in nile green, the end walls in terra cotta, the ceiling in ivory, woodwork mainly painted Wedgwood blue with door architraves picked out in red. The spirit of this decorative effect is retained on the north front of the building, where the general ashlar face is painted black, woodwork in a greyish blue and reveals in light olive.

THE GENERAL LOUNGE.

MERCHANT NAVY HOUSE, LEITH.

J. LENNIE, ARCHITECT.
HOWARD ROBERTSON, F.R.I.B.A., CONSULTANT.

THE OFFICERS' LOUNGE.



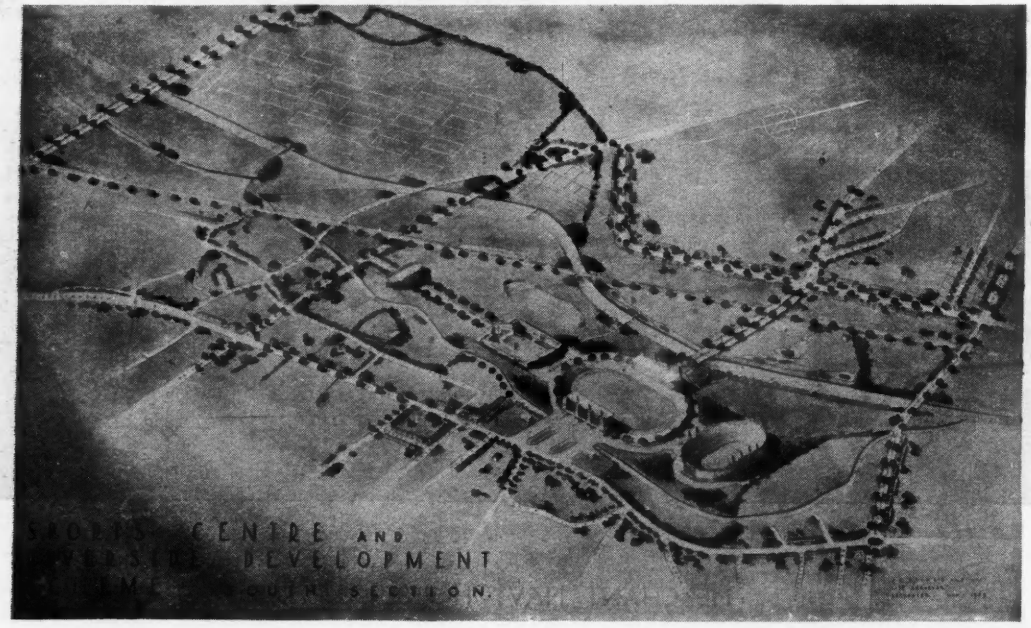
ANOTHER VIEW IN THE GENERAL LOUNGE HALL.

MERCHANT NAVY HOUSE, LEITH.

THE CITY OF LEICESTER

INTERIM REPLANNING SCHEME

THE CITY SURVEYOR (MR. JOHN L. BECKETT, M.Inst.C.E.) has prepared an Interim Report on the physical reconstruction of Leicester. The scheme is considered under various heads. Under Housing, it is estimated that some 5,000 houses should be provided as quickly as possible to meet the shortage created by the war. Further provision should be contemplated only after a post-war review of all the factors. As a temporary measure, the rehabilitation of obsolescent houses and their conversion into flats may have to be considered. A scheme of road building has been prepared, primarily Outer, Inner and Central rings. This last is illustrated on this page; on its completion (states the Report) depends greatly the satisfactory development of the central area. General principles and tentative proposals for the city plan are laid down, and these have as a core the Civic Centre (a view of which, from Horsefair-street, is given above). The Cathedral site would be opened up by the removal of Alderman Newton's Boys' School, and attention would be given to the settings of the ancient central parish churches. The western area would be reformed into three communities, and the periodic flooding of the River Soar would be dealt with by the construc-



tion of flood courses. The riverside lands would be largely employed as open spaces. A plan for the development of the Southern section appears on p. 218. An optimum population of 384,000 is envisaged.

CORRESPONDENCE

[Whilst we are glad to publish letters on professional and other matters of interest to our readers, it must be understood that we do not necessarily endorse the remarks of correspondents, who will oblige us if they will express their views as briefly as possible.]

Building Methods in U.S.A. Report.

To the Editor of *The Builder*.

Sir,—I have read with great interest the correspondence in your columns on building in the U.S.A., and in particular the letter and photograph from Mr. C. R. Fenn, as the organisation he describes was in operation in 1930 for the construction of the south-west wing of Bush House, London.

Before starting building a progress schedule was prepared, and it was the duty of the site staff to see that it worked. Details for all services were worked out down to the position of holes to be left for pipe runs, so that time would not be wasted cutting away finished work (which would also obstruct the following trades). The steel frame was speedily erected, closely followed by the hollow tile floors, and the fixing of the stone facing was commenced at three different levels—*i.e.*, ground, third and seventh floors. Finishings were proceeding on the lower floors before the roof was on, and the building was ready for occupation several weeks before the contract completion date.

Surely there are no hidden mysteries to prevent any building being built in a competent manner if properly organised under the management of a person combining technical knowledge, common sense and the ability to secure the willing co-operation of all concerned.

L. A. Helps, A.I.A.S.

London, W.C.2.

To the Editor of *The Builder*.

Sir,—There is a lot to be said for the points raised by "Balbus" in his letter published in your issue of March 3. It must, however, be borne in mind that in practice bills of quantities prepared by qualified quantity surveyors for an identical job might possibly be far from identical.

Bills of quantities emanating from some offices are known to the building industry as "fuller" than those from some others. In some cases measurement might be taken for an item to be inclusive of all labours, and in other cases the labours taken as distinct and separate items in addition.

The same remarks apply to descriptions generally, which in some cases might result in a builder not fully appreciating what was actually involved, whereas in taking his own builder's quantities from the drawings, he is able to visualise what is, in fact, entailed, and have this well in mind when pricing the items. For the purpose of variations it is customary, when there are no bills of quantities, for a builder to deposit a priced schedule.

In regard to the last paragraph of the letter from "Balbus," it would be helpful to know, more especially in view of the recent L.M.B.A. instruction to members not to tender for contracts over £1,500 without quantities, what in fact is the position and duty of a quantity surveyor in regard to his acting in a "semi-judicial capacity" as between the parties employing him and the builder. Is it understood that, acting as a professional gentleman, there is the strict duty to see that the scales are evenly balanced between the parties, irrespective of the source from which the fees are paid? Estimator.

To the Editor of *The Builder*.

Sir,—Correspondence appearing in your columns on this Report has done much to stimulate healthy discussion, but so far I have not seen the position of the contractor brought into proper light as a captain of industry.

For many years the contractor has generally been carrying out his duties under too many difficulties—*i.e.*, lack of "cut and dried" planning, and too great a judicial power of the independent quantity surveyor. There has already been sufficient correspondence on these two salient factors, which need not be again emphasised here. The contractor, as a captain of industry, who runs risks for revenue from labour production on a scale paralleled or exceeded by very few other industries and under conditions so variable and risky exceeded by scarcely any other industry, should be in control of his own commercial destiny. The solution appears to be in the recasting of our conditions of employment by :

(*a*) Dispensing with quantity surveyors in a neutral capacity, and incorporating their activities with contractors and architects.

(*b*) Estimating on a lump sum basis arrived at from drawings and specifications.

(*c*) Variations and extra works on a settled lump sum price beforehand.

(*d*) No contract to commence until absolutely final drawings are issued to the contractor.

(*e*) Abolition of nominated sub-contractors, and P.C. sums for fittings, etc., except in special circumstances which really warrant this exception.

(*f*) Fees charged by contractors for preparation of estimates.

In short, basically adopt the American practice with modifications as found necessary by experience. The question of a greater number of quantity surveyors required for preparation of estimates should be subordinated to the proper status in industry of the contractor. Fees charged by contractors can be received through an office of the National Federation, to whom all fees can be made payable by clients.

Congratulations must be given to the body of men who conceived the idea of, and no doubt will achieve, the establishment of a "Chair of Building" at the University of Cambridge, which will go far to enhance the prestige of the contractor, who so often comes in for unfair criticism born of lack of knowledge. Too often does a contractor suffer under an architect and/or surveyor unacquainted with practical aspects, and he will continue to do so under our present régime. Let the architect and client get together and thrash out what is required, then pass the information to the contractor, and leave him alone to do it unencumbered. I would mention that no contractor objects to a clerk-of-works' presence.

Space prevents me from elaborating my views as I would wish to do.

Contractor's Estimating Surveyor.

Post-war Reconstruction Finance.

To the Editor of *The Builder*.

Sir,—A few short-sighted people are asking the question : "Can we afford to pay for post-war reconstruction, and where is the money to come from to carry out these great building schemes, such as new satellite towns, slum clearances, new roads, etc.?" The Australian Commonwealth Treasurer recently said : "The war has taught us that the real limits to achievements are physical, not financial. It is man-power, materials and willingness to work which set the limit to what we can do. If we want a better world we will have to work hard for it." Therefore, let any questioning doubters on this question sit down in an atmosphere free from prejudice, and put on their thinking caps awhile.

When the colossal expense of war and cost of reconstruction are compared, it is easy to see what a gulf there is between waste and want. War is costing the country £14,000,000 per day, or nearly £100,000,000 a week. Annual expenditure is round about £5,000,000,000, and the total cost of four years' war comes to the almost astronomical figure of £20,000,000,000!

As the population of Great Britain is only about 40 millions, this means that we have already spent over £500 per head of population—man, woman and child. It is true that in defence of all we hold dear, liberty, and even life itself, no cost can be too high to gain such a prize. But when peace returns to a war-weary world, are we going to revert to a worn-out system of economic slavery, and say that we cannot afford to pay for reconstruction? A thousand times, No! Enough money has been spent on war permanently to endow every child born into the world. In addition, all the slums could be swept away, and many other reforms, which are badly wanted, achieved.

We must demand common action to ensure that from the suffering now being endured there shall arise a new form of social, political and economic life which can remove for ever the underlying causes of poverty and insecurity. Propaganda is now an ugly term, debased by ulterior motives. A better word is "message," and architects and builders have a most important one for the world; in fact, much of the past, present and future progress of mankind depends on their work and activities. Finance must be made the servant, and not the master of the public.

Judex.

Post-War Education of Engineers and Technicians.

To the Editor of *The Builder*.

Sir,—In view of the importance of training engineers and technicians in the post-war period so that this country can maintain its position in the engineering world after the war, my Council are considering the problem from all aspects apart from that of members of the Society of Engineers, and I should be very grateful to receive details of institutions' and firms' training and education schemes so that our investigations can cover the complete field.

My Society would also be pleased to receive the views of educational authorities and engineers interested in this subject, as we desire to collect the views and opinions of all sections of the engineering community, covering not only the specialists' field, but general, civil, mechanical and electrical engineering.

Communications should be sent to me at the Society of Engineers (Inc.), 17, Victoria-street, Westminster, S.W.1.

B. B. Tarring,
Honorary Secretary,
Society of Engineers.

The Severn Barrage.

To the Editor of *The Builder*.

Sir,—My attention has been drawn to recent correspondence on the history of the Severn Barrage scheme, and in particular to the late Mr. C. S. Meik's connection with it.

In point of fact, Mr. Gedye's statements are correct; Mr. Maunsell's are not so. To substantiate this statement, I quote extracts from "Minutes of Evidence," given by Mr. Meik before the Water Power Resources Committee on December 5, 1918.

He said: "As regards the sites for the dam, the two sites which appear to be the most suitable for making a dam to hold up the tidal water of the Severn are (i) at Beachley, and (ii) just below New Passage and in the vicinity of the Severn Tunnel."

". . . for the purpose of this investigation the Beachley site has been chosen.

"The question of the best site requires further investigation, but the figures now put forward as regards power, etc., will apply within certain limits to a dam at either site."

"My calculations so far have only been made for falling tides; that is to say, that turbines only work when the tide is falling."

Referring to the periods of time the turbines can work, he said: "During that time they are generating power which is either used direct or has to be stored . . . the only way to get over the difficulty of interference with the output of the electric power is to store water in high-level reservoirs, and this diagram shows that this is given effect to."

Mr. Meik then explained at length the interworking of the barrage power plant with the reservoir power plant. I have before me a map which shows two large storage reservoirs, one described as "Gaer Hill site," near Trelleck Grange. The second site was the Tidenham Chase site. This map is dated 1918, which was the year in which the evidence on the scheme quoted above was taken by the Water Power Resources Committee.

In 1920 Mr. Meik and his colleagues were invited, and gave to the Ministry of Transport particulars of his scheme, the essential features of which, including the storage reservoir, appeared later in the Ministry scheme and in the Brabazon scheme.

W. T. HALCROW.

Westminster, S.W.1.

"The Housing Production Society."

TO THE EDITOR OF *The Builder*.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, being members of the Committee for the Industrial and Scientific Provision of Housing, and also members of the Technical Sub-Committee, would like it to be understood that we have no connection whatsoever with the Housing Production Society.

O. N. ARUP, M.Ing.F.
D. E. E. GIBSON, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.
EDRIC NEEL, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., N.R.D.

The Society of Auctioneers.

At the annual general meeting of the Incorporated Society of Auctioneers and Landed Property Agents held recently, Mr. A. J. F. Critchel (London) was re-elected President. This will be his fourth successive year of office. In the course of his presidential address, Mr. Critchel set a preliminary goal of £5,000 (of which £1,500 has already been received) for a Students' Aid Fund, to assist returning ex-Service men and women to qualify for the estate profession. He also emphasised that even high standards of education and business conduct needed the seal of statutory registration in order to give adequate protection against unqualified and unscrupulous competition.

The Society, founded in 1924, "comes of age" next year. Its active membership, despite a variety of war casualties, is still over 3,000.

Auctioneers' Examinations.

At the Preliminary Examination of the Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Institute held in January, there were 67 candidates, of whom 43 passed, being 64 per cent. The candidate first in order of merit is Mr. C. W. Sale, 98, Long Drive, East Acton, London, W.3.

BOOK REVIEWS

Concrete Surface Finishes, Rendering, and Terrazzo. Second Edition. By W. S. GRAY, B.A., M.A.I. (Dublin), A.M.Inst.C.E.I., and H. L. CHILDE. London: Concrete Publications, Ltd. Price 8s. 6d.

Since the first edition of this book was written there have been two developments which made a new and up-to-date edition desirable. One is the progress that has been made in the treatment of concrete with a view to avoiding the need to cover it with another material, the other is the need to make use of all available and suitable materials in the post-war reconstruction.

Within recent years, particularly in America where an "architectural concrete" style has been developed, much thought has been devoted to the question of concrete finishes. The object has been to avoid the need to use brick, stone, terra-cotta or other facing to hide unsightly concrete, and to spend some or all of the saving on procuring a concrete surface that will be attractive to the eye. Unsightly lift-marks are avoided, a smooth surface is ensured, and uniformity of colour is obtained by using smooth panel shuttering or shutter linings, by hiding lift marks, and by controlling the concrete mixtures. A few buildings were erected in this country in which these ideas were used, but the war stopped the development. In this book full details are given of all the practical methods and processes used to produce concrete surfaces suitable for the façades of monumental buildings, and many illustrations are given of buildings with "architectural concrete" finishes.

This book should be of particular value to architects, engineers, and others interested in building after the war, in view of the materials and labour that can be saved by finishing buildings in bare concrete that is pleasant in appearance.

A Concise Building Encyclopædia. Illustrated. Compiled by T. CORKHILL, M.I.Struct.E. Second Edition. London, Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Ltd. Price 12s. 6d. net.

About 10,000 technical terms used in architecture, building and structural engineering are explained in this encyclopædia and 1,000 are illustrated. We have checked it on a number of points and have not found it wanting. In nearly all cases the definitions are complete in themselves, and where, in some few instances, this is not so sources of fuller information are suggested. Well-known tools and appliances common to the various trades are omitted, but a number of proprietary and patent materials are included. In a future edition these latter might, with advantage, be increased and arranged in a special section. The book, which runs to nearly 300 pages and is of handy size, should be found most useful for reference, particularly by the younger members of the professions and crafts associated with building.

Mechanical World Year Book, 1944. London: Emmott and Co., Ltd., 28, Bedford-street, W.C.2. Price 2s. 6d. net.

This year book provides, in handy and convenient form, a wealth of technical information, data and tables needed by the mechanical engineer, together with a calendar, an advertisement section and classified buyers' directory. A full index facilitates ready reference. The volume has been revised to accord with progress and war-time practice.

THE ECCLESIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

SURREY CHURCHES.

THE REV. C. K. FRANCIS BROWN, author of "Treasures of the Surrey Churches," addressed about seventy members of the Ecclesiological Society on Saturday, March 4, when the chair was taken by Professor A. E. Richardson, R.A., who was congratulated by the Society on his recent promotion to full academic rank.

Surrey [writes a correspondent] has never been considered an ecclesiologist's paradise, but the lecturer revealed an intimate knowledge of many lesser-known treasures. Owing to economic backwardness resulting in a small and scattered population, Surrey possesses hardly any churches of magnitude other than a few town churches.

Various types of local stone were used in the construction, but owing to the lack of good building stone recourse was made to the natural supplies of local timber from the county's finely wooded districts. This becomes evident in the abundance of wooden towers and the almost complete absence of stone-vaulted roofs in favour of the timber construction.

The hand of the "restorer" has not always dealt kindly with Surrey churches. Whilst Stoke d'Abernon lays claim to the earliest memorial brass in England and probably the oldest Saxon remains in Surrey, it is an example of the worst kind of restoration, for in 1866 much of ancient interest and beauty was "restored" away by an over-zealous incumbent. In pleasing contrast, St. John the Baptist, Wonersh, is a miracle of loveliness, due to the sympathetic restoration of Sir Charles Nicholson. Wonersh possesses an interesting paten dated 1812, inscribed: "Ut dignius celebratur Eucharistia in Ecc. par. de Wonersh in Co. Surriensi, haec Patina Deo dicata est A.D. 1812. Gulmo H. Cole Vicario. J. Sparkes et E. Chitty Sacrorum Custodibus."

St. Nicholas, Compton, noted for its double or upper sanctuary for an anchorite, is one of the most interesting churches in the kingdom. Its treasures include three ancient aumbries, three piscinas, remains of a fifteenth-century stone reredos, and a newly revealed "low-side" square window, thought to be Saxon. Surrey is rich in church chests, wall-paintings, and manorial chapels, to which right of entry is often most jealously guarded. The flower-wreathed Jacobean lectern at Cranleigh, once lamented as the lost "plain, old lectern," has now been restored to the church *via* the rectory, the school, and the builder's yard.

Professor Richardson, in his remarks from the chair, noted that lost church treasures might well be sought on the rockery of the rectory garden! He stressed the present-day need for small churches built in the style of the age, rather than exact replicas of any previous period.

Building Employers' Secretaryship.

The Nottingham and District Association of Building Trades Employers are inviting applications for the position of full-time secretary. Applicants should have some knowledge of the building industry, accountancy experience and organising ability. Applications in writing, stating salary required, not later than March 29, to the President, Nottingham and District Association of Building Trades Employers, 6, Derby-terrace, Derby-road, Nottingham.

FINSBURY SHELTERS

SEQUELS TO COUNCIL'S SCHEMES

THE "DEEP SHELTER" PLAN.

In his decision in the Finsbury deep shelter inquiry, given on March 8, the District Auditor, Mr. C. R. Hurle-Hobbs, has decided not to proceed with a surcharge against the members of the Finsbury Borough Council, but to visit the loss, "something over £1,000," on Alderman H. Riley (now mayor of Finsbury) and the then town clerk, Mr. Arnold James. The shelters were proposed early in 1939, before the war.

Mr. Hurle-Hobbs said that he was satisfied that the council was entitled to provide deep shelters if, after adequate consideration, it decided that they were preferable and procurable, notwithstanding that, owing to lack of approval of the appropriate Government Department, the Exchequer grant under the Act would not be forthcoming. "Having considered very carefully the representations made by and on behalf of members who acquiesced in the proposal I have come to the conclusion that in their consideration of the matter they did not exercise that degree of care, skill, and caution expected of those who stand in the position of trustees of public funds.

"On the other hand, the evidence clearly points to certain information, vital to an appropriate consideration of the matter, having been deliberately withheld, and to their having received incomplete, and to some extent incorrect, information as to the precise terms of the agreement into which they were being asked to enter."

With regard to the events preceding the ultimate act of the council, Mr. Hurle-Hobbs said the chief actors, indeed he would say the only actors so far as the council's interests were concerned, were Alderman Riley and Mr. Arnold James. "It was they," he said," who without any authorisation of the council, negotiated for the financing of the scheme; it was they who realised that it was necessary to obtain the report of an independent expert, and it was they who, having received an adverse report, decided to withhold it from the council.

"In view of the very clear evidence of these two acting in concert as regards the financing of the scheme, the withholding of Professor Collins's report, the ignoring of the council throughout, and, finally, the failing to give it full and complete information, I feel that the major blame for the loss incurred rests upon their shoulders, and that when examined in the light of the acts of Alderman Riley and Mr. James, deliberate and designed as they were, any omission on the part of those members, who, in a state of semi-ignorance, finally committed the council to enter into the agreement, assumes a character much less blameworthy."

The District Auditor adjourned the proceedings formally for a fortnight.—*The Times.*

THE FINSBURY-SQUARE SCHEME.

King's Bench Division.
Before Mr. Justice Tucker.

Baldwin and Another v. Mayor, etc., of Finsbury.

This was an action by Mr. William Wilcox Baldwin, of Park-place, Cardiff, and Mr. Sydney Clough, Queen's-road, Mumbles, Swansea, against the Borough Council of Finsbury, to recover fees for professional services as architects and engineers rendered to Finsbury Borough Council during the years 1939 and 1940.

Mr. Baldwin is a technical consultant and Mr. Clough is a chartered architect and surveyor. The plaintiffs' case was that the Council were anxious to construct in Finsbury-square a mechanically operated car-park of such design as, in the event of anticipated hostilities, would serve as an air-raid shelter. The plaintiffs were the designers of a scheme for the provision of underground mechanically operated car-parks which could be used as air-raid shelters, as, they alleged, the Council knew. In 1939, the Council, by their Town Clerk, Mr. A. James, plaintiffs alleged, authorised and requested the plaintiffs, as Baldwin and Associates, to prepare a scheme for the Finsbury-square site for a car-park and shelter. Having these instructions, as plaintiffs alleged, they thereupon employed Tucker and Huntley to act as quantity surveyors. Plaintiffs' case was that Council adopted the scheme and appointed them as architects and engineers and surveyors at fees in accordance with the scale of the Royal Institute of British Architects. The necessary plans and specifications were prepared to enable the immediate start of the work. Plaintiffs had incurred the liability of the quantity surveyors. The cost of the scheme was estimated at £263,000. At a later date the scheme was abandoned, and now plaintiffs claimed to be entitled to payment on the basis of two-thirds of the scale fees on the cost of the work and the fees of the quantity surveyors, or on a *quantum meruit*. They therefore sought to recover £11,067, and for the quantity surveyors £5,474. Later, plaintiffs agreed to accept £8,500, and £4,250 for the quantity surveyors.

The Council denied that they authorised or requested Baldwin and Associates to prepare the scheme, and denied that they adopted any scheme or appointed plaintiffs to be architects, engineers or surveyors.

The defendants further pleaded that the scheme was subject to the sanction of the proper authorities and the ratification of the Council, which had never been obtained.

Mr. Havers, K.C., and Mr. Watson appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Macaskie, K.C., and Mr. Granville Sharp for the Council.

The hearing of the evidence occupied several days.

His lordship, in giving judgment, said this was a claim for professional services, and the action now resolved itself into a claim by Mr. Clough, who now sought to recover judgment against the Council. The matter arose in this way. By 1938 various Acts of Parliament were passed, and also in 1939, giving powers for the provision of car-parks and air-raid shelters. In 1938, the trading members of the Council took the matter up, and it was found that Council could not find the money without they had the Government's financial aid. Then the Council got into touch with Baldwin and Associates, and there were discussions over the matter with the Home Office and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the owners of Finsbury-square. Later, the plaintiffs got in touch with Mr. A. James, the then Town Clerk, and the borough engineer, and the chairman of the Council, and the leading members, and it was found impossible to combine the two schemes, and plaintiffs were told so. Mr. Clough was then authorised to produce something to be put by the committee. He was sorry the then Town Clerk had not been called as a witness. The plaintiffs said it was agreed that there would be a car-park and shelter, and to get on with the work as quickly as possible, and produce a scheme acceptable to the Home Office. They accordingly got out plans and specifications. One of the issues was—what precisely were the instructions given to the plaintiffs? His lordship accepted the story of Mr. Clough and Mr. Baldwin, who gave their evidence extremely well. He thought they were given instructions which they interpreted as justifying them in preparing plans and specifications. Later, the plans, etc., were sent, and the quantities were taken, and all was ready for asking tenders for the work. The plaintiffs said that ultimately they were appointed architects and engineers and were told that they must get on with the work. He was satisfied that at that time Mr. James gave instructions for the preparation of the plans and specifications and quantities. Plaintiffs said their fees were to be on the R.I.B.A. scale, and under the scale plaintiffs taking two-thirds would be entitled to £8,309, plus £5,474, their liability to the quantity surveyors, a total of £13,783. The plaintiffs were entitled to that on the ground of an abandoned scheme.

But the matter did not end there, because the Town Clerk and the Chairman of the Council could not bind the Council. What was done by them required to be ratified. Was the action of the Town Clerk ever ratified or confirmed by the Council? It was true that a committee passed a resolution recommending the Council to proceed with the work if all consents of interested parties could be obtained. Then the Council resolved that the matter should be deferred, and finally the whole thing was abandoned. The cost of the scheme was £263,000, but finally rose to £325,000 owing to war conditions. The plans were revised, bringing the total cost down to £200,000. The Council were fully aware of the work done. A committee confirmed it, but the Council did nothing. Under all the circumstances he came to the conclusion that the Council never ratified the agreement or proposed to ratify it. Therefore the plaintiffs' claim failed.

Then plaintiff was appointed by the Council as an expert to deal with their air-raid shelter, and he prepared plans. A reasonable sum for this work was £4,000. Again the question was whether their call for plans was ratified or confirmed by the Council. He could find nothing to show that the Council expressly or impliedly ratified the action of the Town Clerk. He thought that the plans could not now be used by the Council unless they paid for them.

Judgment was entered for the defendants with costs.

OBITUARY

William Kelly, A.R.S.A.

We regret to record the death in Aberdeen of Mr. William Kelly, A.R.S.A., LL.D., in his 83rd year. Mr. Kelly was an Associate of the Royal Scottish Academy and a Fellow of the Aberdeen Society of Architects. He had been a Vice-President of the Scottish Ecclesiological Society.

James MacLaren Ross, M.C., A.R.I.B.A.

It is pointed out that Mr. J. M. Ross (whose death we reported in our last issue) was 65, not 82, as given in our notice. He won the M.C. when 39. We much regret this inaccuracy.

American Architectural Practice.

The American Library, 1, Grosvenor-square, W.1, inform us that the Library now contains "The Handbook of Architectural Practice," issued by the American Institute of Architects, 4th edition, 1943.

Surveyors' Membership.

The Chartered Surveyors' Institution have issued from 12, Great George-street, S.W.1, the (1944) Supplementary List of Members.

HOUSING AFTER THE WAR

ROLE OF THE BUILDING SOCIETIES.

Two speeches touching on some of the problems of post-war housing were made at a special meeting of members of the Abbey National Building Society at Wigmore Hall, W.1, on March 10—the first by Sir Harold Bellman, Chairman, and the second by Mr. Stanley C. Ramsey, F.R.I.B.A., Deputy Chairman of the Society.

SIR HAROLD BELLMAN, in the course of his speech, said: The level of building costs has a decisive influence upon the public's capacity to live in new houses. It cannot be gainsaid that costs will, both immediately and for some years after the war, be on a higher level than in 1939. During the first few years they will be in process of adjustment, and this will inevitably be the most difficult period. Thereafter the curve will tend to flatten out, and one of the major questions is at what level this will take place. Some quite fantastic predictions have been made, ranging from the optimists who speak of 20 per cent. above 1939, to the pessimists who go up to over 100 per cent. It seems certain, however, that the truth will lie approximately midway between these extremes, and I am not without hope that after an initial period we shall see a level of costs which will not constitute an insuperable bar to progress.

There is no fundamental reason why building societies should not usefully collaborate in the provision of houses for letting. The societies, through their central organisation, have already expressed their willingness in principle to do so on a considerable scale after the war, but the lessons of the past must be learned if future collaboration is to be fruitful. In particular, a clear line of demarcation must be drawn between houses on the one hand which must necessarily be let at rents substantially below the economic level (after taking any general, though not any particular subsidy into account) and in respect of which, therefore, the most privileged loan terms possible are essential; this is distinctively the field of the local authority. On the other hand, there is a vast number of houses in connection with which the rent must, by common consent (after taking account of any general subsidy) be substantially at an economic level; this is a field in which the building societies should be able to provide a service on acceptable terms.

Apart from slum clearance and similar limited fields, housing should stand on an economic basis. The Exchequer will have innumerable calls upon it in the post-war period, and indeed some of these will indirectly help housing such as family allowances, a comprehensive national health service, etc., if they are adopted.

The building societies' total funds have been substantially maintained throughout the war, but their composition has undergone a marked change, which is important in relation to its participation in post-war housing. Thus, at the present time no less than 25 per cent. of the resources of all building societies is, on the average, in reasonably liquid form. Moreover, this margin is almost continuously growing. Consequently, the societies should have no difficulty in making advances on a scale of some £150 million a year after the war—a figure broadly corresponding to a quarter of a million houses per annum.

MR. STANLEY RAMSEY, who referred to the question of controls, said: Lord Woolton, in a recent speech, has told us that there will be a shortage both of trained personnel and traditional materials for building. Therefore, if first things are to come first—in this case houses rather than luxury building—then obviously there will have to be priorities or some system of licensing. I have frequently thought that the control which is exercised over building societies by the Chief Registrar through the Building Societies Acts is an almost ideal form of control which safeguards our movement whilst allowing the maximum amount of freedom for initiative. I am also further convinced that if the mistakes of the years between the two world wars are not to be repeated, some form of control to be exercised by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning is not only desirable but essential.

Whatever form of control is imposed, I am convinced it will do more harm than good if it is not so ordered as to permit of the greatest amount of individual enterprise. Private or individual enterprise, properly conceived, is not of necessity antagonistic to State enterprise but rather complementary to it; without the active and friendly co-operation of these two agencies, I am convinced that the housing problem will never be solved.

MANCHESTER SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

STUDENTS' PRIZES.

The following prizes have been awarded in competition to student members of the Manchester Society of Architects and affiliated Societies, and were presented on February 24 by the President (Mr. H. T. Seward, F.R.I.B.A.):—

Senior Measured Drawings Prizes: 1st, Bradshaw Gass Prize, R. Latté (Manchester University School of Architecture); 2nd, Society's Prize, (Miss) M. Heatley (Manchester University School of Architecture).

Junior Measured Drawings Prize: Society's prize, Brian G. Cobb (Manchester University School of Architecture). An additional prize awarded to (Miss) J. Edmunds (Manchester University School of Architecture).

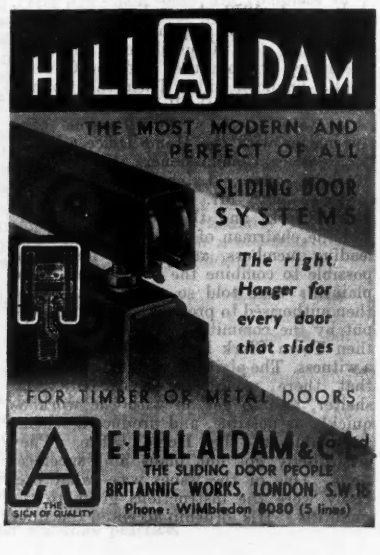
Sketches Prizes: Beaumont Prize, Brian G. Cobb (Manchester University School of Architecture); Education Committee Prize, John B. Bickerdike (School of Architecture, Municipal School of Art).

Essay Prize: President's Prize, (Miss) J. Edmunds (Manchester University School of Architecture).

Senior Design Prize: 1st, Society's Prize, John B. Bickerdike (School of Architecture, Municipal School of Art); 2nd, Woodhouse Bequest, Derek Wrigley (School of Architecture, Municipal School of Art).

Junior Design Prize: Society's Prize, Eluned Lewis (Manchester University School of Architecture).

The subject for the Senior Design Competition was "A Children's Welfare Centre," and for the Junior, "A Youth Hostel." The subject of the winning essay was "English Wallpaper Design."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THE SIGN OF QUALITY

"THE PUB"

DR. MALLON ON ITS PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY.

SPEAKING on "The Place of the Pub. in the Community" to the Town and Country Planning Association on March 2, DR. J. J. MALLON, C.H., J.P. (Warden of Toynbee Hall), said that with changing social conditions the question of the public-house was assuming certain new aspects. The hotel played a very much more important part in American life than it did here, but he thought this tendency would come to this country later on. At present there were two types of public-house in East London—the small one and the large, rather brazen place, on the broad highway. Of the small ones, a very few might be written off as rather evil places, but the typical small public-house was of genuine use to the street and neighbourhood where it was situated. The house justified itself to those who used it, but criticism against it was on account of its deficiences. There were few amenities and few facilities for games; he was even less attracted by the large public-house. There had been a steady and marked improvement during the last twenty or more years: convictions for drunkenness were much fewer, but the progress in the public-house had not kept pace with progress elsewhere. For example, the average wage of full-time women workers in 1909 was only 11s. 3d. a week, whereas now a woman could maintain herself by her earnings, and was able to expect to get decent quarters in which to take amusement and recreation.

Carlisle showed a great improvement on what existed elsewhere; in that city the public-houses were, and had long been, publicly owned. They were run on the principle that nothing should be done to induce people to drink unnecessarily. Billiards tables were available and newspapers. In some places food was provided, and in one or two food for consumption off the premises. The inspiration of Carlisle had gone all over the country, and in some areas brewers had built houses that were in every respect beautiful and gave a vision of a new kind of public-house.

Looking to the future, Dr. Mallon thought the small public-house should be continued and improved. It should have a garden in which old people could sit and have a glass of beer. He would like to see friends meet there, talk quietly, or play some game. More than to-day it should be a focus of very local interests and conversation. Whether small or large, the public-house should be provided with much more than intoxicating liquors. The large public-house should be able to provide an elaborate meal, and all public-houses should be able to provide snacks, tea, coffee, and every kind of soft drink. Were we going to say that the public-house was an incurable evil, a thing that must be suppressed, or should we say it was what we made it, that it might be a foul place or might be as good as the club frequented by the middle-class man or woman? As yet we had not shaped our policy entirely on either of these views. In some of the new housing estates there was no public-house at all, in others only one in a central place. One effect of this was to encourage applications for licences at points just outside the new area. "The right policy," declared Dr. Mallon, "would be to say that the public-house is what we make it, and that we can provide in it a spirit of toleration, good fellowship and cordiality, as the result of which those who use the public-house will find life easier and more enjoyable."

MACHINERY AND PLANT

APPLICATIONS TO CIVIL ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION.

In a contribution to a symposium of papers on "Machinery and Plant in Connection with Civil Engineering Construction" given at a joint meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers on March 14, Sir George Mowlem Burt, M.Inst.C.E., said that he did not know when or where man first started mechanisation, or what was the first form it took, but it must have been many thousands of years ago, and probably in the East. However, the same basic principle had run through all of it, namely, the saving of man's labour, or, in other words, the saving of man-hours. "It is natural, therefore, to find that the biggest advances have been made in countries where labour was scarce and/or expensive; and that is why so much of the development that has taken place during the past 80-100 years has been in America. In that country labour has always been scarce and comparatively expensive, whilst in addition, their home market has been a whole continent, throughout which similar conditions as to labour apply, in comparison to which the British and Continental markets have had to meet the extremely varied demands of isolated jobs spread all over the world, in many regions of which labour has been plentiful and cheap."

The Development of Machines.

It was of interest to note that where conditions were peculiar to any country, they had resulted in the development of special machines to meet them. In Holland major excavation jobs had been for canal construction, and because of that the Dutch dredger had become world famous, whilst in Germany vast quantities of excavation had been carried out in removing overburden from the soft coal deposits; for that the Germans had developed the "Lubecker," and that particular type of machine was probably better made in Germany than anywhere else. In America, where industrial development had made such rapid strides, the earth-moving and concreting machinery that had been developed was very hard to beat. Each type of machinery had a big home demand to stimulate production.

Earth Moving Machinery. — One advance—not a new machine, but a new development of an old one—was the small "Tournapull," developed in America for air-borne service. That was still available only to the armed forces and therefore no close description of it could be given; but he (the author) believed that, like the small navvy and dragline excavator, it might find a ready market in Great Britain rather than in the United States, where it was evolved, because in a built-up country like the British Isles the jobs were naturally smaller and mobility and cheapness would make it an attractive proposition. Considerable development had occurred in the rubber-tyred tractor, such as the D.W.10 and the Tournapull, but had been slowed up by the war as experiments and developments had had to give way to the production of equipment or machines already tried out.

The Tractor Crane.—On a recent visit to the United States he had found that the tractor crane had made great strides. This was a fitment that could be attached to the side of any tractor. Prior to the war it was fitted to the end, but fitting at the side opened up great possibilities for post-war work, especially for pipe-lines and similar work. The crane was operated by a Hyster double-drum machine fitted to the rear of the tractor. This winch enabled the tractor to be used also for other purposes; thus it could be used as a dragline, or dragscraper, or as a pile-driver. The makers stated that before the war these winches were fitted to one in fifteen tractors; now one in every two had them.

The need for accurate and quick levelling of runways had developed during the war an improvement on the "autopatrol." This was on somewhat similar lines to the original model, but could be adapted to many more uses.

Concrete Mixers. — The hand-fed concrete mixer was too well known to need any close description. It was sufficient to say that it produced reasonably good concrete, particularly where no more than a 5-in. to 6-in. slump was required, where labour was plentiful, good and cheap, where no high speed or quantity per day was required, and where the concrete had to be hand-tamped into position. If, however, large quantities were required, and to a low slump for machine placing and screeding, and a consistent and high-quality concrete was required, the central mixing plant, with its much greater output per man-hour and much easier and accurate control of water-content and control generally came into its own.

The double-drum mixers of the Koering or Rex paver types were ideal for aerodrome or large road construction jobs, but to make those machines economical, the organisation both behind and ahead of the mixer had to be of the first order. With them, it was easy and no more expensive to produce first-class work; the water-content, and therefore the slump, was largely automatic, and the human error, whether wilful or careless, was to a large extent eliminated. Another good type of mixer originally developed in Germany but now produced in Great Britain was the Regulus, a continuous-mix type, made in two sizes, which yielded a comparatively large output with controlled quality and, with proper organisation, was economical in man-power. Careful and regular maintenance was required, but given this, it was a thoroughly reliable machine. It was most suitable when used as a central mixing machine, and when worked in batteries would give large and consistent outputs. If full advantage was to be taken of its continuous mix, it should be worked with a fixed hopper at the delivery end, whence the concrete was transported in ordinary tipping lorries.

Vibrators.—For placing the mixed concrete various methods of vibrating were available. There were on the market a number of machines which worked by vibrating the forms or the steel reinforcement, and also "immersion vibrators" for placing in or upon the actual concrete; in his (the author's) opinion the last-mentioned were the best.

"There can be little doubt," declared Sir George, "that the use of vibrating methods, properly controlled, makes for better concrete. It will enable a good, dense concrete to be made with a very low water-content: but the shrinkage from the unmixed aggregate and cement to the measured cubic contents of the finished concrete is greater when vibrators are used, and with low wages the economy achieved on the actual placing costs is not sufficient to offset the cost of the extra materials used per cubic yard of finished work. For these reasons vibrators are seldom used in Great Britain. In America vibrating of concrete is almost universal on jobs of any size. It is recognised that the extra shrinkage has to be paid for, but it is considered that the better quality of the finished concrete is worth the higher cost."

He had found that in American road-making practice very strict control was exercised over quality of concrete. Spreading and vibration by approved machines was specified on all jobs of any size, it being recognised that if a low slump was specified, the concrete must be spread and vibrated into position by machine; otherwise a weak porous concrete would result. The spreading and screeding machines employed could deal with more than 100 cubic yards per hour, and those inspected were actually doing so. The organisation needed to maintain this output day in and day out was considerable, not only as regards the traffic, but also in form setting, in expansion joint setting, and in keeping the machine used for bottoming up the sub-grade the right distance ahead of the work. This machine, called a "sub-grader," also ran on road forms, and certainly enabled control of the work to be exercised far beyond anything that he had seen before.

Preparation of the Sub-grade.—The author was also impressed by the care taken in the preparation of the sub-grade. Tests were constantly taken of the sub-soil and, according to its bearing capacity, the thicknesses of sub-base and concrete were varied to carry the traffic loads anticipated. The consolidation of the sub-grade was very carefully done with a sheepsfoot roller followed by a rubber-tyred roller.

No description of this type of plant used would be complete without some mention of the plant and organisation necessary to keep it at work. If tractors were used in any quantity, then a power greasing plant similar to those used in garages was well worth while. In America it was usual on big jobs covering a large extent of ground to fit up a lorry with a power greasing plant, diesel oil supply, etc., to serve the various machines coming in for refuelling and greasing. That was usually under the charge of a responsible mechanic who recorded the quantities supplied to each machine and made a note of its condition. It was apparent from the records of several firms giving particulars of "working" and "bread-down" time, that the extra care and attention was well worth while. If the jobs were of comparatively short duration and at a distance from the main repair depots of the firm, mobile workshops were installed on the jobs, fitted up in much the same way and with much the same tools as the Army mobile workshops.

"My observations showed that the Americans know how, when, and what plant to use," said the author, "and that they also certainly know how to take care of it: and as regards plant, upkeep, and plant records, I left America feeling that I had learnt something. In visiting the jobs in the United States I felt that the whole personnel were much more 'plant conscious' and more 'machine minded' than is usual in Great Britain. One perhaps small, but significant, point was that the scrap-heap was smaller and tidier and that there was only one on each job. I would be glad to think that all British jobs were run like the average one in America."

FIRE INSURANCE SURVEYING

DISCUSSION AT THE I.A.A.S.

THE duties and responsibilities of the fire insurance surveyor were the subject of a lecture by Mr. M. Butler at a meeting of the Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors held at 75, Eaton-place, S.W.1. Mr. Punnett presided.

THE LECTURER said the majority of fire surveyors were on the staffs of insurance companies, though some were in the employ of Lloyds and others on the staffs of insurance brokers. His remarks applied to those operating on behalf of the insurance companies. The fire insurance surveyor's first visit to any premises was made because a company had been asked to quote a rate, or because a company had accepted an insurance subject to survey. The object of his visit, therefore, was to obtain information which would enable the company to decide if the proposed insurance was acceptable and, if so, to determine the rate on which it should be undertaken. The company's decision upon these points depended upon the degree of fire hazard in the premises. Accordingly the fire surveyor made a detailed examination of the premises, paying particular attention to such features as (a) the construction of exterior walls and roof, (b) the construction of floors and ceilings, and the nature of any partition walls, partitions and wall linings, (c) the system of artificial lighting, (d) the nature of any power employed, (e) the number of machines and their uses, (f) the nature of the processes carried on, and (g) the nature of the stock kept, and how the various materials were stored and handled. But a report might be drawn up giving information on all these points which would yet be of little assistance to the company. For example, a statement that a building was lighted by electricity conveyed practically no information regarding the fire hazard; the company wanted to know what type of wiring was employed, whether the installation had been properly erected, and whether any extensions had been made to it by unskilled or careless persons. An electric lighting installation which was not up to standard might be more dangerous than a system of lighting by oil lamps properly supervised and controlled. The degree of fire hazard arising from any particular feature depended to a large extent upon the circumstances of the case, and could not be determined unless all those circumstances were known. For example, no fire hazard could arise from the presence of a slow-combustion stove in a building entirely of concrete construction and used as a warehouse for firebricks, but a similar stove would present a very definite feature of fire hazard if installed in a building used for garaging and repairing petrol-driven vehicles. It was the duty of the fire surveyor to discover every feature which affected the possibility of a fire breaking out, and the likelihood of its spreading. It was also his duty to explain to the proposed insurer the benefit of any alteration which could reasonably be carried out to reduce the fire hazard of the premises.

Varieties of Hazard.

The kinds of hazard he had enumerated, said the lecturer, were known as physical hazard: there was also moral hazard, and of this there were many degrees. Few men would set fire to their own property, but there were many who, in the event of a fire breaking out on their premises, would put in exaggerated claims; and there were some who, if they thought they could make money out of a fire, would be deliberately careless. Moral hazard might also arise in connection with employees: cheap labour was usually careless, and discontented workpeople might even go the length of setting fire to the premises. Management and disposal of trade waste were important as affecting fire hazard. When a building was not in the sole occupancy of one person, it might happen that features of physical or moral hazard would arise in connection with other parts of the premises.

After his first visit the fire surveyor drew up a plan for submission to his company. That plan showed the following features: (a) The materials of which the walls and roof of each building were constructed, (b) whether adjoining buildings were separated by substantial walls from the one to be insured, (c) what openings existed in such walls, and (d) whether such openings were protected by fire-resisting doors. It was the duty of the fire surveyor to be completely fair in his report on these and all other relevant matters. Upon his report the company would accept or reject the business and decide its terms.

Subsequent visits might be made by the fire surveyor after alteration of manufacturing process or change in one of the raw materials employed. Any such change might seem unimportant in the eyes of the insurer but might nevertheless increase or reduce the fire risk to a considerable degree.

The lecturer concluded by asking for closer co-operation between architects and insurance companies. The principal difficulty was in regard to fire-resistance construction. The insurance companies recognised four different standards, and it was common to find that a building failed to comply with one or other of these standards in some one respect only, but for that reason the premium had to be higher than would otherwise have been the case.

"Question Time."

In reply to some questions, the lecturer said the fire surveyor was chosen from the staff in the office where he was employed. If he had not already passed the examination of the Insurance Institute and become an associate he must do so soon after his appointment. The Institute's examination was in the general principles of all branches of insurance. The Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors had a number of fire surveyor members, and he believed it was considering the instituting of a curriculum and the holding of examinations which would enable those who aspired to become fire surveyors to show evidence of qualification. As to assessing the damage done by a fire, the fire surveyor was not directly concerned with this: such damage was assessed by an independent body of men, the fire assessors.

MR. STEWART said the lecturer had stated that the architect did not give enough heed to the fire surveyor when designing a building; but was Mr. Butler aware of the amount of trouble an architect had in getting his plans passed? Did he know the number of departments they had to go through with the London County Council? In the end, perhaps, the architect came up against the Fire Department, and this department wanted something that upset all the arrangements that had been made; so that the architect had to start all over again. It was the business of insurance companies to get in touch with the fire departments of local authorities and let their rules embody those of the local authorities.

The lecturer replied that it would be a fine thing if co-operation could be effected between fire insurance company and local authority so that there should be uniformity of ruling; but take the rules for fire-resisting construction. The insurance companies had four or five different standards. They liked the highest standard, but they could not expect a man erecting a small factory to spend a lot of money which would not be an investment. Ordinary normal construction was brick or stone with a slate or tiled roof, and if the building did not come up to this standard the company charged a higher premium, but if a building was better than normal standard a discount was granted. But the local authority was only concerned with minimum requirements and might accept something as sufficient which would not satisfy the insurance company. Further, the company would not take kindly to rules being laid down for it by the local authority. They must make and administer their own rules. He realised the architect's difficulty in going round the different departments of a local authority and finding at last that the insurance company wanted something different. But the architect should get the insurance company's fire-resistance standards in the first instance; if the building was designed from the beginning to comply with one of those standards no question would arise with the insurance company.

MR. BEARMAN, speaking as a fire surveyor, said he could sympathise with the architect. The architect sometimes felt he was penalised by the insurance company for what he regarded as fiddling alterations. It was difficult to satisfy all parties. One of the helpful things resulting from the war was the attempt at co-ordination and the eradication of some of the complexities which caused irritation. An architect might find that 1½ in. of a material satisfied the fire-resistance standard of the L.C.C., but the insurance company might require 2 in. If he was informed of this fact he might say, "I don't think it necessary, but I will do it."

(*Continued on page 228.*)

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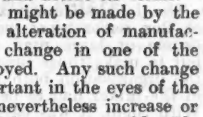

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RATES OF WAGES IN THE BUILDING TRADE

AS AND FROM 2nd APRIL, 1943

[Every endeavour is made to ensure accuracy, but we cannot be responsible for errors]

	Crafts-men.	Lab-ourers.		Crafts-men.	Lab-ourers.		Crafts-men.	Lab-ourers.		Crafts-men.	Lab-ourers.
Aberavon	2/0	1/7	Cleveleys	2/0	1/7	Isle of Thanet	1/10	1/5½	Saxmundham	1/8½	1/4½
Aberdare	2/0	1/7	Clitheroe	2/0	1/7	Isle of Wight	1/9½	1/5	Scarborough	1/11½	1/6½
Abergavenny	2/0	1/7	Cobham (Surrey)	1/11	1/6½	Keighley	2/0	1/7	Scunthorpe	2/0	1/7
Abingdon	1/10½	1/5½	Colchester	1/11½	1/6½	Kenilworth	2/0	1/7	Selby	2/0	1/7
Accrington	2/0	1/7	Colwyn Bay	1/11	1/6½	Kettering M.B.	2/0	1/7	Sevenoaks	1/10½	1/5½
Aldeburgh	1/8½	1/4½	Congleton	1/11½	1/6½	Kidderminster M.B.	1/11½	1/6½	Sheerness	1/10	1/5½
Aldershot	1/10½	1/5½	Coventry C.B.	2/0	1/7	King's Lynn	1/10	1/5½	Sheffield	2/0	1/7
Alfreton U.D.	2/0	1/7	Cranbrook	1/10	1/5½	Kirkham	2/0	1/7	Shipley	2/0	1/7
Alnwick	1/11½	1/6½	Cranleigh	1/10	1/5½	Knowle	1/11½	1/6½	Shoeburyness	1/11½	1/6½
Altrincham	2/0	1/7	Crawley	1/10	1/5½	Lancaster	2/0	1/7	Shoreham	1/11	1/6½
Ambie	1/11½	1/6½	Crewe	1/11½	1/6½	Leamington M.B.	2/0	1/7	Shrewsbury M.B.	1/11½	1/6½
Amersham	1/10½	1/5½	Cromer	1/9	1/4½	Leatherhead	1/11	1/6½	Sittingbourne	1/10	1/5½
Ammanford	2/0	1/7	Crowborough	1/10	1/5½	Leeds	2/0	1/7	Skegness U.D.	1/11	1/6½
Andover	1/10	1/5½	Cuckfield	1/10	1/5½	Leicester C.B.	2/0	1/7	Sleaford U.D.	1/10½	1/5½
Ardingly	1/10	1/5½	Darlington	2/0	1/7	Leighton Buzzard	1/9	1/4½	Slough	1/11	1/6½
Arundel	1/10	1/5½	Darwen	2/0	1/7	Letchworth	1/11	1/6½	Smethwick	†2/0	†1/7
Ascot	1/10	1/5½	Daventry M.B.	1/10½	1/5½	Lewes	1/10	1/5½	Southampton	1/11½	1/6½
Ashby-de-la-Zouch U.D.	2/0	1/7	Deal	1/10	1/5½	Lichfield M.B.	1/11	1/6½	Southend-on-Sea	1/11½	1/6½
Ashford (Kent)	1/10	1/5½	Denbigh Town	1/11	1/6½	Lincoln C.B.	2/0	1/7	Southport	2/0	1/7
Ashford (Middlesex)	2/0	1/7	Derby C.B.	2/0	1/7	Littlehampton	1/10	1/5½	South Shields	2/0	1/7
Ashington	1/11½	1/6½	Devizes	1/9	1/4½	Liverpool	‡§2/1	¶	Spalding	1/10	1/5½
Ashtead	2/0	1/7	Dewsbury	2/0	1/7	Llandudno	1/11	1/6½	Stafford M.B.	1/11½	1/6½
Ashton-under-Lyne	1/10	1/5½	Didcot	1/10	1/5½	Llanelly	2/0	1/7	Staines	1/11	1/6½
Aylesbury	1/9	1/4½	Diss	1/8½	1/4½	London—			Stamford M.B.	1/11	1/6½
Aylsham			Doncaster	2/0	1/7	12m. radius	2/1½	1/8	Stevenage	1/11	1/6½
Bagshot	1/10	1/5½	Dorchester	1/9½	1/5	12-15m. radius	2/1	1/7½	Stockport	2/0	1/7
Banbury	1/10	1/5½	Dorking	1/10½	1/5½	Long Eaton U.D.	2/0	1/7	Stockton-on-Tees	2/0	1/7
Barnsley	2/0	1/7	Dover	1/10	1/5½	Longton	2/0	1/7	Stoke-on-Trent C.B.	2/0	1/7
Barnstaple	1/10	1/5½	Dovercourt	1/10	1/5½	Loughborough M.B.	2/0	1/7	Stourbridge M.B.	2/0	1/7
Barrow-in-Furness	2/0	1/7	Driffield	1/10½	1/5½	Louth M.B.	1/10½	1/5½	Stourport U.D.	1/11½	1/6½
Barry	2/0	1/7	Droitwich M.B.	1/11½	1/6½	Lowestoft	1/10	1/5½	Stowmarket	1/9	1/4½
Basingstoke	1/10	1/5½	Dudley M.B.	2/0	1/7	Luton	1/11½	1/6½	Stratford-on-Avon M.B.	1/11	1/6½
Bath	1/11½	1/6½	Dunstable	1/10½	1/5½	Macclesfield	1/11½	1/6½	Stroud	1/11	1/6½
Batley	2/0	1/7	Durham City	2/0	1/7	Maidenhead	1/11	1/6½	Sunderland	2/0	1/7
Beaconsfield	1/10½	1/5½	Eastbourne	1/11	1/6½	Maidstone	1/10½	1/5½	Sutton Coldfield M.B.	2/0	1/7
Beccles	1/8½	1/4½	E. Glam. (Mon. Val.)	2/0	1/7	Malvern U.D.	1/10½	1/5½	Swaffham	1/8½	1/4½
Bedford	1/11½	1/6½	East Grinstead	1/10	1/5½	Manchester	2/0	1/7	Swanage	1/10	1/5½
Berkhamsted	1/10	1/5½	Edenbridge	1/10	1/5½	Manningtree	1/9	1/4½	Swansea	2/0	1/7
Berwick	1/11½	1/6½	Ely	1/9	1/4½	Mansfield M.B.	2/0	1/7	Swindon	1/10½	1/5½
Beverley	2/0	1/7	Epping	2/0	1/7	March	1/9	1/4½	Tamworth M.B.	1/11½	1/6½
Bexhill	1/10½	1/5½	Exeter	1/11½	1/6½	Margate	1/10	1/5½	Taunton	1/10½	1/5½
Bideford	1/10	1/5½	Exmouth	1/10½	1/5½	Market Harborough	1/11	1/6½	Tenterden	1/10	1/5½
Biggleswade	1/10	1/5½	Fakenham	1/9	1/4½	Matlock U.D.	1/10½	1/5½	Thames Haven	2/0	1/7
Billericay	1/9½	1/5	Falmouth	1/10½	1/5½	Melton Constable	1/8½	1/4½	Thetford	1/9½	1/5
Birchington	1/10	1/5½	Fareham	1/11	1/6½	Melton Mowbray	1/11	1/6½	Thorpe Bay	1/11½	1/6½
Birkenhead	‡§2/1	¶	Faversham	1/10	1/5½	Merthyr	2/0	1/7	Todmorden	2/0	1/7
Birmingham C.B.	†2/0	†1/7	Felixstowe	1/11	1/6½	Middlesbrough	2/0	1/7	Tonbridge	1/10½	1/5½
Bishop Auckland	2/0	1/7	Filey	1/10½	1/5½	Middleton	2/0	1/7	Torquay	1/11½	1/6½
Bishop's Stortford	1/11	1/6½	Fleetwood	2/0	1/7	Middlewich	1/11½	1/6½	Totnes	1/10	1/5½
Blackburn	2/0	1/7	Flint	2/0	1/7	Milford Haven	1/10½	1/5½	Trowbridge	1/9	1/4½
Blackpool	2/0	1/7	Folkestone	1/10	1/5½	Morecambe	2/0	1/7	Truro	1/9½	1/5
Blyth	2/0	1/7	Frinton-on-Sea	1/10	1/5½	Morley	2/0	1/7	Tunbridge Wells	1/10½	1/5½
Bognor Regis	1/10	1/5½	Frome	1/9	1/4½	Mundesley	1/9	1/4½	Uppingham (Salop)	1/11½	1/6½
Bolton	2/0	1/7	Gainsborough U.D.	1/11	1/6½	Nantwich	1/11½	1/6½	Uttoxeter U.D.	1/10½	1/5½
Bournemouth	1/11	1/6½	Gateshead	2/0	1/7	Nelson	2/0	1/7	Wakefield	2/0	1/7
Bracknell	1/10	1/5½	Gillingham (Kent)	1/11	1/6½	Newark-on-Trent	1/11½	1/6½	Walsall C.B.	2/0	1/7
Bradford	2/0	1/7	Glossop	2/0	1/7	Newbury	1/10	1/5½	Walsden	2/0	1/7
Bradford-on-Avon	1/9	1/4½	Gloucester	1/11½	1/6½	Newcastle-on-Tyne	2/0	1/7	Walton-on-Naze	1/10	1/5½
Braintree	1/10	1/5½	Godalming	1/10	1/5½	Newcastle-u.-Lyme	2/0	1/7	Ware	1/11½	1/6½
Brentwood	1/11½	1/6½	Goole	2/0	1/7	New Forest	1/10	1/5½	Warminster	1/9	1/4½
Bridgwater	1/10½	1/5½	Gosport	1/11½	1/6½	Newmarket	1/10	1/5½	Warrington	2/0	1/7
Bridlington	1/11½	1/6½	Grantham M.B.	1/11	1/6½	Newport, Mon.	2/0	1/7	Warwick M.B.	2/0	1/7
Brighouse	2/0	1/7	Gravesend	1/11½	1/6½	Newport Pagnell	1/10	1/5½	Wellington R.D.	1/11½	1/6½
Brighton	1/11	1/6½	Great Yarmouth	1/10	1/5½	Northampton C.B.	2/0	1/7	Welwyn	1/11	1/6½
Bristol	2/0	1/7	Grimsby	2/0	1/7	Norwich	2/0	1/7	Welwyn Gar. City	2/0	1/7
Broadstairs	1/10	1/5½	Guildford	1/10	1/5½	Nottingham	2/0	1/7	Wells (Norfolk)	1/8½	1/4½
Bromsgrove U.D.	1/11½	1/6½	Guilsborough	1/10½	1/5½	Nuneaton	2/0	1/7	West Bromwich C.B.	2/0	1/7
Buckley	2/0	1/7	Halifax	2/0	1/7	Oakham U.D.	1/10½	1/5½	Westcliff-on-Sea	1/11½	1/6½
Bungay	1/8	1/4	Hanley	2/0	1/7	Oldham	2/0	1/7	Weston-super-Mare	1/11	1/6½
Burnham-on-Crouch	1/8½	1/4½	Harpenden	1/11	1/6½	Ormskirk	2/0	1/7	Weybridge	1/11	1/6½
Burnley	2/0	1/7	Harrogate	2/0	1/7	Oxford	1/11½	1/6½	Weymouth	1/10	1/5½
Burslem	2/0	1/7	Hartlepools	2/0	1/7	Oxted	1/10½	1/5½	Whitby	1/11	1/6½
Burton-on-Trent C.B.	2/0	1/7	Harwich	1/10	1/5½	Paignton	1/11½	1/6½	Whitstable	1/10	1/5½
Bury	2/0	1/7	Haslemere	1/10	1/5½	Peterborough (Borough)	1/11½	1/6½	Widnes	2/0	1/7
Bury St. Edmunds	1/9½	1/5	Hastings	1/10	1/5½	Plymouth	2/0	1/7	Wigan	2/0	1/7
Buxton	1/11½	1/6½	Hatfield	1/11½	1/6½	Pontefract	2/0	1/7	Wigton	1/10½	1/5½
Byfleet	1/10½	1/5½	Haywards Heath	1/10	1/5½	Pontypridd	2/0	1/7	Willington	2/0	1/7
			Hednesford	1/11½	1/6½	Port Talbot	2/0	1/7	Wilmslow	2/0	1/7
Cambridge	2/0	1/7	Hemel Hempstead	1/11	1/6½	Portsmouth	1/11½	1/6½	Winchester	1/10½	1/5½
Canterbury	1/10	1/5½	Henley-on-Thames	1/10	1/5½	Preston	2/0	1/7	Windermere	1/10½	1/5½
Cardiff	2/0	1/7	Hereford	1/10	1/5½	Pulborough	1/10	1/5½	Windsor	1/11	1/6½
Carlisle	2/0	1/7	Herne Bay	1/10	1/5½	Ramsgate	1/10	1/5½	Wisbech	1/9½	1/5
Carnforth	2/0	1/7	Hertford	1/11½	1/6½	Reading	1/11½	1/6½	Witham	1/10	1/5½
Castleford	2/0	1/7	Heysham	2/0	1/7	Redditch U.D.	1/11½	1/6½	Woking	1/10½	1/5½
Caterham	2/0	1/7	Hitchin	1/11	1/6½	Redhill	1/10½	1/5½	Wokingham	1/10	1/5½
Chard	1/9	1/4½	Hoddesdon	1/11½	1/6½	Ripon	1/10½	1/5½	Wolverhampton C.B.	2/0	1/7
Chatham	1/11	1/6½	Holt (Norfolk)	1/8½	1/4½	Rochdale	2/0	1/7	Woodbridge	1/9½	1/5
Chelmsford	1/11½	1/6½	Horley	1/10	1/5½	Rochester	1/11	1/6½	Worcester C.B.	1/11½	1/6½
Cheltenham	1/11	1/6½	Horsham	1/10	1/5½	Rugby M.B.	2/0	1/7	Workington	1/10½	1/5½
Chepstow	1/11½	1/6½	Horwich	2/0	1/7	St. Albans	1/11½	1/6½	Worksop	1/11½	1/6½
Chertsey	1/11	1/6½	Huddersfield	2/0	1/7	St. Helens	2/0	1/7	Worthing	1/10	1/5½
Chester	2/0	1/7	Hull	2/0	1/7	St. Neots	1/9½	1/5	Wrexham	1/11½	1/6½
Chesterfield M.B.	2/0	1/7	Hunstanton	1/9	1/4½	Saffron Walden	1/9½	1/5	Wroxham	1/9½	1/5
Chichester	1/10	1/5½	Huntingdon	1/9½	1/5	Salisbury City	1/9½	1/4½	Wycombe	1/11	1/6½
Chorley	2/0	1/7	Ilfracombe	1/10	1/5½	Salisbury Plain	1/11	1/6½	Wymondham	1/9	1/4½
Cirencester	1/9½	1/5	Ingatestone	1/10½	1/5½	Sawbridgeworth	1/10½	1/5½	Yeovil	1/10½	1/5½
Clacton	1/10	1/5½	Ipswich	1/11½	1/6½				York	2/0	1/7

† Plus 2d. per working day. ‡ Plasterers 2/1½. ¶ Tradesmen's Labourers, 1/7½. Navvies and General Labourers, 1/6½

§ Joiners, Plumbers, Bricklayers, Tilers and Masons receive 2/- per week or 4d. per day Tool Money.

NOTE.—Carpenters, Joiners and Plumbers in all Towns and Districts (other than Birkenhead and Liverpool) receive 2d. per day Tool Allowance.

For Building Trade Wages in Scotland, see page 227.

PRICES CURRENT OF MATERIALS*

NOTE.—These prices apply to large quantities of materials at works at London stations, or site, in London area as stated. Prices for smaller quantities ex merchant's warehouse will of course be higher. Owing to the exceptional circumstances which prevail at the present time, prices of materials should be confirmed by inquiry. The prices of soft woods are for cash on delivery.

BRICKS, &c.

	£ s. d.
First Hard Stocks	4 16 0
Second Hard Stocks	4 9 0
Mild Stocks	3 16 0
Single Rough Stocks	3 10 0
Common Stocks	3 0 6

All loaded free into lorry at the works. The question of haulage is still very difficult and prices must be obtained from job to job. *In addition*, there will be the Levy under the Bricks (Charges) Order, 1942, of 3s. per 1,000.

2½ in. Phorpres. A discount of 6d. 1,000 only monthly account.	King's Cross Station per 1,000 s. d.	To sites in W.C. District per 1,000 s. d.
Pressed	56 9	63 3
Keyed	58 9	65 3
Single Bullnose	76 9	83 3
Rustics	76 9	83 3
Whites	77 3	83 3

	£ s. d.
White Midhurst Best selected (delivered London site)	5 10 0
Best blue Pressed Staffs. (London Stns.)	11 12 0
Do. Bullnose (London Stns.)	12 2 0
Blue Wire Cuts (London Stns.)	10 9 6

Best Stourbridge Fire Brick (London Stns.) :—

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2½ in. 10 0 0	3 in. 12 0 0

GLAZED BRICKS (London Stns.). Add 12½% to Prices.

Best White Ivory and Salt Glazed Stretcher 30 0 0	D'ble Str'tch'rs .... 38 10 0 D'ble Headers .. 35 10 0
Headers 29 10 0	One side&two ends 39 10 0
Quoins, Bullnose and 4½in. Flats 36 10 0	Two sides&one end 40 10 0 Splays and Squints 38 0 0

Second Quality, £2 per 1,000 less than best. Cream and buff, £2 extra over white. Other colours. Hard Glaze, £5 10s. extra over white.

ADD LEVY ON BRICKS, 3/– per 1,000 except Glazed Bricks.

PARTITION SLABS.

Delivered on site London Area.

"PHORPRES" HOLLOW PARTITION BLOCKS.

	s. d.		s. d.
2" per yd. sup. ..	2 8	3" per yd. sup. ..	3 6
2½" " "	2 11	4" " "	3 10

CLINKER CONCRETE.

2" per yd. sup. ..	1 11	3" per yd. sup. ..	2 6
2½" " "	2 3	4" " "	3 6

CRANHAM TERRA COTTA.

Size 12 x 9 x 2" per yd. super	2 8
Size 12 x 9 x 2½" " "	2 11
Size 12 x 9 x 3" " "	3 6
Size 12 x 9 x 4" " "	3 10

HEMPSTEAD—KEYED TWO SIDES.

12" x 9" x 2" 2 8	12" x 9" x 3" 3 6
12" x 9" x 2½" 2 11	12" x 9" x 4" 3 10

Per yard super d/d. Free on site, London.

Plus 2d. for smooth one side, and 4d. for smooth both sides.

STONE.

	s. d.
BATH STONE.—Delivered in railway trucks at Westbourne Park, Paddington, G.W.R., or South Lambeth, G.W.R., per ft. cube	3 3½
BEER STONE—RANDOM BLOCK—	
Free on rail at Seaton Station per ft. cube	2 3
Delivered free on rail Nine Elms, S.R. "	3 1½
Selected approximate size one way, 1d. per cubic ft. extra, selected approximately three sizes or for special work, 3d. per cubic ft. extra.	
PORTLAND STONE—	
Brown Whitbed, in random blocks of 20 ft. average, delivered in railway trucks at Nine Elms, S. Rly., South Lambeth Station, G.W.R., and Westbourne Park, Paddington, G.W.R. .... per ft. cube	4 7
Do. do. delivered on road waggons as above stations ..... per ft. cub.	4 7
White basebed, 3d. per ft. cube extra.	
NOTE.—1d. per ft. cube extra for every ft. over 20 ft. *average* and ¼d. beyond 30 ft.	
HOPTON-WOOD STONE—	
F.O.R. Quarries, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, Random blocks from 10ft. and over P.ft.cb.	13 2
Sawn two sides	26 11
Sawn three or four sides	31 11
YORK STONE, BLUE—*Robin Hood Quality*. Delivered at any Goods Station, London.	
6 in. sawn two sides landings to sizes (under 30 ft. super) ..... per ft. super	5 6
6 in. rubbed two sides, ditto "	6 3
3 in. sawn two sides slabs (random sizes) ..... "	2 7
2 in. to 2½ in. sawn one side slabs (random sizes) (paving) "	1 8½
1½ in. to 2 in. ditto ..... "	1 4½
HARD YORK— Delivered at any Goods Station, London.	
Scrappled random blocks .. per ft. cube	6 10
6 in. sawn two sides landings to sizes (under 40 ft. super) ..... per ft. super	5 7½
6 in. rubbed two sides, ditto "	6 9
4 in. sawn two sides slabs (random sizes) ..... "	3 5
3 in. ditto ditto ..... "	2 8
2 in. self-faced random flags.. per yd. super	8 9

CAST STONE.

Delivered in London area in full van loads, per ft. cube : Plain, 7s. 6d. Moulded, 8s. 6d. Small section cills and copings, 11s.

SAND.

Thames Ballast	11s. 6d. per yd.	delivered 2 miles radius Paddington.
Pit Ballast	10s. 0d. " "	
Pit Sand	12s. 0d. " "	
Washed Sand	13s. 0d. " "	
½ in. Shingle	10s. 6d. " "	
¾ in. Broken Brick	16s. 0d. " "	
Pan Breeze	10s. 0d. " "	

CEMENT.

Best British Portland Cement. Standard Specification, delivered London area.	£ s. d.
6 ton loads and upwards site .... per ton	2 11 0
1 to 6 tons site	2 14 0
Alongside Vauxhall in 80-ton lots	2 8 6
"Ferrocrete" Rapid Hardening Cement—	
6 ton loads and upwards site	2 17 0
1 to 6 tons site	3 0 0
Alongside Vauxhall in 80-ton lots	2 14 6
"Aquacrete" Water Repellent, "Blue Circle" cement, 30s. per ton on ordinary "Blue Circle" prices.	
"Colorcrete" Nos.1 and 2. Coloured rapid Hardening Portland Cement in 6 ton lots	4 11 0
"Colorcrete" not rapid hardening, accord-to colour, from £7 to £15 10s. per ton.	
"Snowcrete" White Portland Cement (in free paper bags)	11 5 0
Under one ton .. .. .. per cwt.	0 13 2
"417" Cement (Ultra Rapid Hardening) Delivered Site London Area in 6 tons lots and upwards	3 11 0

Plus packages at current prices.

Super Cement (Waterproof), bags extra. 4 1 0

NOTE.—Jute sacks charged at 35s. 6d. nett per ton (20 sacks) for quantities of or exceeding one ton. Less than one ton 1s. 9½d. nett each.

Credit 1s. 6d. nett each when returned in good condition within two weeks.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Roman Cement 8 10 0	Keene'sCement, White 7 0 0
Parian Cement 7 0 0	" " Pink 6 10 0

Cementone Colours for cement according to tints, per cwt. from £3 5s. 0d.

SLATES.

First quality slates from Penrhyn or Portmadoc, carriage paid in full truck loads to London Rate Station.

Per 1,000 actual	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
24 by 12	45 5 0	18 by 10	24 0 0
22 by 12	37 17 6	18 by 9	22 12 6
22 by 11	34 2 6	16 by 10	21 10 0
20 by 12	33 0 0	16 by 8	16 12 6
20 by 10	30 5 0		

Having Secured the Contract— what about the Steel Scaffolding?

TUBULAR

—S & C—

SCAFFOLDING

For the lowest Prices apply to the Oldest Firm in the Scaffolding Trade.

STEPHENS & CARTER LTD.

The British Steel Scaffolding Co.

731-761, HARROW RD., N.W.10

Telephone No. Ladbroke 1191 (6 lines)

PLASTER.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Coarse, Pink	4 2 6	Sirapite, Coarse	4 8 6
" White ..	4 10 0	" Finish	4 14 6
Pioneer	5 5 0		

Above prices for 4-ton loads and over London Area.

Best Ground Blue Lias Lime ..	3 7 6	Grey Stone Line Chalk Lime	3 1 0 3 1 0
Granite Chippings	1 15 0	Hair per cwt. ..	3 15 0

NOTE.—Sacks are charged 1s. 9d. each, and credited 1s. 6d. if returned in good condition within three months, carriage paid.

Stourbridge Fireclay in paper bags, £2 12s. 6d. 6-ton lots at railway depot.

TILES.

Delivered at London rate stations in full truck loads of not less than 6 tons ..... Per 1,000 f.o.r. London.

Best machine-made tiles from Broseley or Staffordshire district	£6 12 9
Ditto hand-made ditto	7 19 9
Ornamental ditto	8 7 0
Hip and valley tiles—Hand-made	16 4
(per dozen) —Machine-made	15 7

HARD WOOD.

1 INCH AND UP THICK.

Average price for prime quality	s. d.		Foot cube. £ s. d.
Dry English Wainscot Billets	16 0	to	0 18 0
Dry Slavonian Billet Wainscot ..	17 0	to	1 0 0
Dry Cuba Mahogany logs	21 0	to	1 4 0
Square-edged Honduras Mahogany			0 16 6
Log Cut Honduras Mahogany			0 17 6
American Figured Oak			0 13 0
American Plain Oak			0 12 6
Jap, Figured Oak			0 13 0
Jap, Plain Oak			0 12 6
Teak			0 15 6
American Whitewood			0 12 6
African Whitewood			0 8 0
African Mahogany			0 11 0
Australian Walnut			0 19 0
Australian Silky Oak			0 12 6
Best Scotch glue		per cwt.	5 0 0
Liquid glue		per gallon	1 2 0

SOFT WOOD.

MERCHANTABLE BRITISH COLUMBIAN PINE.

	Minimum. £ s. d.	Maximum. £ s. d.
Scantlings in imported sizes		
2 in. by 3 in. to 4 in. by 11 in.	47 0 0	58 0 0

PLANED BOARDS.

PRIME CLEAR BRITISH COLUMBIAN PINE.

	Per standard. £ s. d.
1 in. by 11 in. / 1 in. by 9 in.	71 0 0
	Per square. s. d.
1 in. plain edge flooring	56 3
1¼ in. ditto	70 6
1 in. tongued and grooved	56 3
1¼ in. ditto	70 6

MATCHING.

	per square. s. d.
¾ in.	40 0
¾ in.	45 3
1 in.	59 0

PLUMBERS' BRASS WORK.

Delivered in London.

M.O.H.

S.D. BIBCOCKS CRUTCH HEAD, FOR IRON

½ in.	¾ in.
33/–	51/– per doz.

TOILET BIB COCKS FOR IRON.

½ in.	¾ in.
60/–	72/– per doz.

S.D. STOP COCKS FOR IRON.

¼ in.	⅜ in.	1 in.	1¼ in.	1½ in.	2 in.
33/–	48/–	86/–	209/–	281/–	456/– per doz.

S.D.S. COCKS WITH TWO UNIONS FOR LEAD.

¼ in.	⅜ in.	1 in.	1¼ in.	1½ in.	2 in.
45/–	77/6	123/–	240/–	372/–	624/– per doz.

DOUBLE NUT BOILER SCREWS.

¼ in.	⅜ in.	1 in.	1¼ in.	1½ in.	2 in.
5/6	6/8	11/–	24/–	36/–	56/– per doz.

HEAVY CROYDON BALL VALVES.

½ in.	⅜ in.	1 in.	1¼ in.	1½ in.
72/–	115/–	144/–	288/–	384/– per doz.

CAPS AND SCREWS.

1¼ in.	1½ in.	2 in.	3 in.	3½ in.	4 in.
14/–	18/6	25/9	45/3	64/9	71/6 per doz.

BRASS SLEEVES.

1¼ in.	2 in.	3 in.	3½ in.	4 in.
10/9	13/6	25/–	37/–	46/– per doz.

LEAD TRAPS WITH BRASS CLEANING SCREWS.

	1½×6 lbs.	1½ × 6 lbs.	2 × 7 lbs.	3 × 7 lbs.
Lead P.	26/–	34/–	55/–	92/– per doz.
Lead S.	34/–	41/–	67/–	115/– per doz.

SOLDER.—Plumbers', 1/7. Tinmen's, 2/1. Blow pipe 2/6 per lb.

* The information given on this page has been specially compiled for THE BUILDER, and is copyright. The aim in this list is to give, as far as possible, the *average* prices of materials, not necessarily the highest or lowest. Quality and quantity obviously affect prices—a fact which should be remembered by those who make use of this information. Prices are subject to 2½ per cent. cash discount.

PRICES CURRENT OF MATERIALS—(contd.)

See Note at top of preceding page.

METALS.

SOISTS GIRDERS, &c., to LONDON STATION PER TON—

	£	s.	d.
R.S. Joists, cut and fitted	£24	0	0
Plain Compound Girders	26	10	0
" Stanchions	29	0	0
In Roof Work	35	0	0

NOTE.—These prices are for standard pieces and not special pieces of an awkward nature.

MILD STEEL ROUNDS.—To London Stations, per ton.

Diameter.	£	s.	d.	Diameter.	£	s.	d.
¼ in.	23	5	0	½ in.	21	15	0
⅝ in.	22	15	0	¾ in. to 2½ in.	21	5	0
⅞ in.	22	5	0				

WROUGHT TUBES AND FITTINGS.

Deliveries from works.

Deliveries from London stock further 2½% gross. 10/17

	Tubes. ¼"/6" %	Tubulars, and ½"/6" %	19/24" %	Flanges. ½"/2" %	2½"/6" %
Light weight	51½	—	47½	51	57½
Heavy weight	44	44	39½	41	49½
Galv. lightweight	30	—	30	30	30
Galv. heavyweight	20	20	20	20	20

Tubes and tubulars sizes ¼"/⅜" inclusive, charged extra of 5% less gross.

Fittings. Figs. 25/34 5% less gross discount.

Terms.—Nett cash end of month following date of invoice. Carriage paid on lots of £10 nett value and over.

C.I. HALF-ROUND GUTTERS—London Prices ex Works, per yd. in 6 ft. lengths.

	Gutters.	Nozzles.	Stop ends.
3 in.	1/5½	1/2½	4½d.
3½ in.	1/7	1/4	4½d.
4 in.	1/7	1/6	6½d.
4½ in.	1/8½	1/8½	7½d.
5 in.	2/0½	2/0	9d.

O.G. GUTTERS.

3 in.	1/10½	1/7½	5d.
3½ in.	2/1½	1/7½	6½d.
4 in.	2/1½	1/8½	7½d.
4½ in.	2/2½	1/11½	8½d.
5 in.	2/8½	2/3	10½d.

RAIN WATER PIPES.

Per yd. in 6 fts.	Pipe.	Bends. Stock angles.	Branches.
2 in.	2/2½	1/5½	2/2
2½ in.	2/3½	1/8½	2/7½
3 in.	2/8½	2/1½	3/2
3½ in.	3/2½	2/6½	3/7½
4 in.	3/8½	3/0½	4/5

NETT PRICES.

Tonnage allowance—4-ton lots, 5 per cent.
2-ton lots, 2½ per cent.

L.C.C. COATED SOIL PIPES—London Prices, ex Stock.

Per yd. in 6 fts.	Pipe.	Bends.	Branches
2 in.	3/9½	2/7½	3/2
2½ in.	4/5	2/10½	3/11½
3 in.	4/9	3/2	4/8½
3½ in.	4/10½	3/11½	5/5½
4 in.	5/3½	4/5	6/3½

L.C.C. COATED DRAIN PIPE.

	cwt.	qr.	lbs. in 9 fts.	per yard.	Bends.	Branches.
3 in.	0	3	14.	6/0	7/3	11/6
4 in.	1	1	17.	8/7	8/2	14/5
5 in.	1	2	18.	10/7	14/9	22/3
6 in.	2	0	1	12/9	17/0	29/8

Gaskin, 75/- per cwt.

	Per ton basis in London. £	s.	d.
IRON.—Staffordshire Crown, Merchant quality	18	7	6
IRON.—Staffordshire Marked Bars	19	7	6
Mild Steel Bars	19	15	0
Mild Steel Hoops	21	10	0

	Ex Merchant's Stock, per ton (two-ton lots).		
Soft Steel Sheets, C.R. and C.A.—			
20 gauge	24	17	6
24 gauge	25	2	6
26 gauge	25	17	6
Galvanised Corrugated Sheets, 6 ft. to 9 ft.—			
20 gauge	27	0	0
24 gauge	27	10	0
26 gauge	28	15	0
Galvanised Flat Sheets, C.R. and C.A.—			
20 gauge	28	10	0
24 gauge	29	0	0
26 gauge	30	5	0

	Per ton £	s.	d.
Cut Nails, 3 in. and up	28	10	0

ALL NETT.

METAL WINDOWS.—Standard sizes, suitable for complete houses, including all fittings, painting two coats, and delivery to job, average price about 2s. 4d. to 2s. 7d. per foot super.

PAINTS, &c.

	£	s.	d.
Raw Linseed Oil (5 galls.) .. per gallon	0	7	0
Boiled Linseed Oil (5 galls.) .... "	0	7	4
Genuine Ground English White Lead, per cwt.	3	11	9
Genuine White Lead Paint, 14-lb. tins free, per cwt.	4	16	6
Genuine Red Lead "	2	18	6
Linseed Oil Putty (Kegs extra) .. "	1	5	3
Size, XD quality ..... ftn.	0	4	9

Turpentine substitute can be obtained and prices vary according to quality from 3/8 gallon upwards.

BUILDING TRADE WAGES IN SCOTLAND

Following are grade rates authorised by the Scottish N.J.C. from February 1. Every endeavour is made to ensure accuracy, but we cannot be responsible for errors that may occur.

Grade Classification	A	A1	A2	A3	B	B1
Craftsmen	2/0½	2/0	1/11½	1/11	1/10½	1/10
Labourers	1/7	1/6½	1/6½	1/6	1/5½	1/5½

Aberdeen .....A	Dumfriesshire A2	Inverness.....*	Perthshire A2
Ayrshire .....A	Dundee .....A	Inverurie A1	Peterhead A1
Banff .....B	Dunoon .....A	Kincardineshire ..A2	Renfrewshire .....A
Berwickshire A2	East Fife.....A	Kinross-shire .....A	Rothesay .....A
Bridge of Allan ....A	East Lothian .....A	Lanarkshire .....A	Roxburghshire A2
Broughty Ferry ....A	Edinburgh .....A	Midlothian .....A	St. Andrews .....A
Clackmannanshire..A	Fifeshire .....A	Monifieth .....A	Selkirkshire A2
Doune.....A	Forfarshire A2	Moray and Nairn B	Stewartry A2
Dunblane .....A	Glasgow .....A	Newport .....A	Stirlingshire .....A
Dumbartonshire ..A	Greenock .....A	Peebleshire A2	Stornoway A2
Dumfries A1	Hamilton .....A	Perth .....A	Tayport ..... A
			West Lothian .....A

*This town has its own rates : Masons, 1/9½; Carpenters, 1/9½ ; Slaters, 1/9½ ; Plumbers, 1/10; Plasterers, 1/10½ but 1/11 is paid owing to the scarcity at present ; Painters, 1/9½ and Labourers, 1/5.

The information given in this table is copyright. Rates of wages in England and Wales are given on page 225

VARNISHES, &c.

		Per gallon. £	s.	d.
Oak Varnish	Outside	0	16	0
Fine do.	"	0	18	0
Fine Copal	"	1	0	0
Pale Copal	"	1	2	0
Pale Opal Carriage	"	1	6	0
Best do. do.	"	1	14	0
Floor Varnish	Inside	1	0	0
Fine Pale Paper	"	1	0	0
Fine Copal Cabinet	"	1	4	0
Fine Copal Flatting	"	1	2	0
Hard Drying Oak	"	1	0	0
Fine Hard Drying Oak	"	1	1	6
Fine Copal Varnish	"	1	2	6
Pale do.	"	1	14	0
Best do.	"	1	4	6
Best Japan Gold Size	"	1	14	6
Best Black Japan		0	12	0
Oak and Mahogany Stain (water)		0	14	0
Brunswick Black		0	9	6
Berlin Black		0	16	0
Knotting (patent)		0	17	0
French and Brush Polish		0	14	0
Liquid Dryers in Terebene		0	11	0

LEAD, &c.

(Delivered in London.)	Per ton. £	s.	d.
LEAD.—Sheet, English, 4 lb. and up	38	0	0
Pipe in coils	38	10	0
Soil pipe	42	10	0
Compo pipe	47	10	0

NOTE.—Country delivery, 20/- per ton extra, lots under 3 cwt. 4/- per cwt. extra and over 3 cwt. and under 5 cwt., 2/6 per cwt. extra. Cut to sizes, 4/- per cwt. extra.

Old lead, ex London area, at Mills.....per ton £18 0 0.

The Hall Mark AYGEE of Craftsmanship

AIR RAID DAMAGE REPAIRS

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SHOP FRONTS AND PLATE GLASS REPLACEMENTS RECEIVE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

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100 WESTMINSTER BRIDGE RD., S.E.1

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THE SCOTTISH BUILDER

NEW BUILDINGS

ABERDEEN.—The Corporation Architects, Municipal Offices, Bridge-st., to prepare plans for 40 houses at Middlefield housing site.

BIGGAR.—Plans prepared for alterations and extensions, for which the architect is W. Plenderleith, Clydevale, Thankerton.

COATBRIDGE.—The Corporation Architects to prepare plans for housing scheme at Woodside.

Company Announcement.

The Federated Employers' Insurance Association, Ltd., announce that the 1943 underwriting results, including interest in accounts, show a transfer to profit and loss of £50,651, against the preceding year's amount of £42,873. The premium income realised £371,588, against £430,373 in 1942.

The directors are recommending at the forthcoming general meeting a final dividend of 1s. per share, less tax, making 20 per cent. for the year (same as for 1942). Warrants will be despatched on March 28.

GLASS.

SHEET GLASS, ORDINARY GLAZING QUALITY CUT SIZES.

	Per ft. super. d.
18 oz.	3½
24 oz. Clear or " R " quality	5
26 oz.	6½
32 oz.	8½

ENGLISH ROLLED PLATE AND FIGURED CATHEDRAL, ETC., IN CUT SIZES.

Over 500 ft. super of all kinds.	Per ft.
Rolled plate, ¼ in.	6½d.
Rough cast double rolled, ¼ in.	7½d.
Rough cast double rolled, ½ in.	7½d.
Figured rolled, and Cathedral, white	6½d.
Figured rolled and Cathedral, tinted	9½d.
Rolled Sheet	6d.
Reeded, Broad Reeded, Cross Reeded and Chevron Reeded, ¼ in. thick	10½d.

Rolled plate is the same price as rough cast double rolled.

	Per ft. s.	d.
Wire Rolled, ¼ in. thick	0	9½
Wire Cast, ¼ in. thick	0	9½
Georgian Wired Cast	0	10
"Calorex" Sheet, 21 oz.	2	6
" " 32 oz.	4	0
" Cast, ¼ in. thick	0	9½
" " ⅛ in. thick	1	0
" " ¼ in. thick	1	2
Non Actinic Glass, ¼ in. thick	0	9½
" " " ⅛ in. thick	1	0
" " " ¼ in. thick	1	2

"VITA" GLASS.

	Per ft. s.	d.
"Vita" Plate Glass, about ⅛ in. thick—		
To 7 ft. super	5	0
Over 7 ft. super	7	6
"Vita" Sheet Glass, about 18/20 oz.	2	0
Cathedral "Vita" Glass :		
¼ in. thickness	2	0
⅛ in. "	3	0
⅛ in. Georgian Wired "Vita" Glass	3	6

GLASS BRICKS.

	s.	d.	
P.B. 1—8 in. × 4½ in. × 3½ in.	2	9	each nett
P.B. 2—5½ in. × 5½ in. × 3½ in.	2	6	"
P.B. 3—7½ in. × 7½ in. × 3½ in.	3	6	"
P.B. 32—7½ in. × 7½ in. × 3½ in.	3	6	"

Radiused Corner Bricks to match up with—

P.B. 2	4	6	each nett
P.B. 3	6	0	"
P.B. 32	6	0	"

FIRE INSURANCE SURVEYING

(*Continued from page 224.*)

A different case was that where he put in extra protection throughout a block consisting of shops with flats over. The insurance company's rules would tell him that not so much protection against fire was required in the case of the flats as in that of the shops. If there was a friendly relationship between the architect on the one hand and the fire surveyor on the other the latter could put his finger on the points affecting the insurance company.

MR. CLEWS said that the lecturer, being both chartered surveyor and fire surveyor, was in a position to put both sides of the question. If an institute of fire surveyors was to be produced which would do its duties properly, the training should include instruction in both sides of the matter.

MR. BEARMAN spoke again, proposing a vote of thanks. In doing this he said that one of the things the lecturer had not mentioned was structural steelwork; it was important to have this protected by a sufficient thickness of some such material as brick or concrete. In 1938, when tests were applied, some fire-resisting floors stood up very badly, comparing unfavourably with a wooden floor with a plaster ceiling. This was because the steelwork was not adequately covered.

The CHAIRMAN said he would like to confirm what had just been said with regard to reinforced concrete floors. The only floor that had ever stood up to a four hours' test was one where the underside was protected by an inch of moulded asbestos. Another matter was that the I.A.A.S. had started its fire section with a view to increasing the knowledge of the young surveyor, and was engaged now in getting out a curriculum and subsequent syllabus for examination.

SEVENTY YEARS A BUILDER

A WELL-KNOWN Guildfordian, Mr. Stanley Ellis, completed last month 70 years in the building trade (says the *Surrey Advertiser*). Now aged 86, but having been blessed with freedom from illness, Mr. Ellis is still active, and has a fund of memories of the building industry. When he was apprenticed to Messrs. Goddard and Sons, Farnham, who were the biggest firm of church builders in the south of England, his pay was 2s. a week, but he ended by becoming a trustee for them. An apprentice in those days had to "stand his footing"—usually nine gallons of beer.

In 1888 Mr. Ellis started his own business, known as Stanley Ellis, Ltd. Recalling some of the changes, good and otherwise, that he has seen in the building industry, Mr. Ellis expressed the view that skilled craftsmanship generally had declined. He did not agree that this was wholly due to machinery, though the demand for speedy construction might be one cause. He thought young men now had more interests outside their job than formerly. "In the old days," he said, "the ordinary craftsman would do work which would now have to be done by a specialist."

Re-Washering of Taps.

The Metropolitan Water Board have resolved to re-washer (i) draw taps and (ii) ball valves in storage cisterns only free of charge to the consumers, subject to certain conditions. Householders and others are invited to report defects in fittings and leaky taps to the Distribution Engineer (Supplies), Metropolitan Water Board, New River Head, Rosebery-avenue, Clerkenwell, E.C.1.

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATIONS

Building and Other Trades: Census of Production, 1935.

The Board of Trade announce that the type of Part IV of the Final Report on the Census of Production, 1935, has been destroyed. The Board, however, have corrected galley proofs covering the following:—

Paper, Printing and Stationery, Timber, Clay and Building Materials, Building and Contracting, Mines and Quarries, Public Utility Services, Government Departments.

In view of indications that there may be a considerable demand for this volume at the present time, the Board of Trade are considering asking the Stationery Office to reproduce the galley proofs in sections. The first section which might be reproduced is that relating to the Building and Contracting Trade, the Clay and Building Materials Trades and the Timber Trades. This could be reproduced for 15s. a copy.

Before the work is put in hand, it is necessary to ascertain the demand. Accordingly, all those who would desire to obtain a copy, or copies, of the Building Trades section are requested to communicate as soon as possible with the Assistant Secretary, Statistics Department, Board of Trade, Romney House East, Tufton-street, S.W.1, through whom alone copies will be obtainable. They are requested at the same time to say whether they will require copies of the other sections if, and when, they are reproduced.

M.O.W. Regional Plant Advisers.

The Ministry of Works announces the following changes in its Regional Staff:—

REGIONS 4, 5, 6 and 11.—Mr. H. Cooper has been appointed Assistant Director of Plant. Mr. J. C. Watson has taken Mr. Cooper's place as Regional Plant Adviser for London and the South-East and Mr. C. P. Clement-Davies will be temporarily in charge of Region 6, Whiteknights-road, Earley, Reading. (Tel.: Reading 61431.)

REGIONS 1, 2 and 10.—Mr. R. Draper will act as Regional Plant Adviser for Regions 1, 2 and 10, with the assistance of Mr. C. A. Kitson in Region 10.

Purchase of Contractors' Plant.

The Minister of Works announces that, as from April 3, the following items have been added to the list of contractors' plant which can be purchased only under permit:—

(i) Portable asphalt plants and bituminous mixers; (ii) tar and bitumen boilers, asphalt mixers, cookers and cauldrons, patching outfits; (iii) gritting machines (for use in conjunction with tar-spraying machines only) and cold emulsion sprayers; (iv) bituminous spreaders and finishers.

Applications for permits to purchase should be made to A.S.72, Ministry of Works, Lambeth Bridge House, Albert Embankment, London, S.E.1.

FEDERATED EMPLOYERS'
ESTABLISHED 1904
INSURANCE LTD. ASSOCIATION

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ETC. ETC.

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22, Lawrence Lane, Cheapside, London, E.C.2

FUTURE CONSTRUCTION

The Editor welcomes authentic information for this section from architects, surveyors or contractors. Items should reach 4, Catherine-street, Aldwych, W.C.2, not later than Tuesday morning.

CONTRACTS OPEN

For some contracts still open, but not included in this list, see previous issues. Those with an asterisk are advertised in this number. The dates at the heads of paragraphs are those for the submission of tenders; a dagger (†) denotes closing date for applications; the name and address at the end refer to the person from whom particulars may be obtained.

BUILDING

MARCH 20.

Barnstaple T.C.—Extension of slaughter-house, Tuly-st. L. C. Adams, B.S., The Castle.

Bilston T.C.—Erection and fitting up of prefabricated M.O.W.P. standard hut for nursery. A. V. Williams, T.C. Dep. £2 2s.

Consett U.D.C.—Erection of 27 brick domestic shelters. T. P. Leath, Property S., Council-chbrs., Blackhill.

MARCH 21.

Manchester Emergency Committee. — Dismantling portion of first-aid post and additions thereto and partial reinstatement of Whitworth Baths, Openshaw. City Architect. Dep. £1 1s.

MARCH 23.

York Housing Committee.—For repairs and adaptations at 44, Queen Anne's-rd., and 46, Bootham-cres. C. J. Minter, City E. Dep. £1.

MARCH 24.

Belper R.D.C.—Reconstruction of cowshed at Cross-o'-th'-Hands farm. J. Laycock, Council Offices, Derby-rd., Belper.

Coventry E.C.—Erection of temporary senior mixed school at Keresley Grange. Steane & Nolan, Architects, 5, Queen Victoria-rd., Coventry. Dep. £3 3s. to Boro. Treas.

MARCH 27.

Hailsham R.D.C.—Erection of 4 houses at Alfriston. H. W. Boardman, S., Cortlandt, Hailsham. Dep. £1 1s.

Montgomeryshire E.C. — Construction of canteen kitchen and dining-room at Llandysilio. T. Glyn Davies, D. of E., County Ed. Offices Newtown. Dep. £2 2s.

MARCH 28.

Dublin Commissioners of Public Works.—Erection of offices for film censor. Office of Public Works. Dep. £1.

APRIL 3.

Montgomeryshire E.C. —Construction of canteen kitchen at Llanwddyn. T. Glyn Davies, D. of E., County Ed. Offices, Newtown. Dep. £2 2s.

Montgomeryshire E.C.—Construction of brick canteen kitchen at Llanwnog. T. Glyn Davies, D. of E., County Ed. Offices, Newtown. Dep. £1 1s.

NO DATE.

Hopwood.—Erection of lavatories at St. John's Church. Rev. E. B. Glass, M.A., Vicarage, St. John's Church, Hopwood.

PAINTING, ELECTRIC LIGHTING, HEATING, ETC.

APRIL 11.

Salford T.C.—Scraping, cleaning and painting of three bridges. City E.

ENGINEERING, IRON AND STEEL

MARCH 31.

Wenlock T.C.—Construction of pumping station, etc. A. H. S. Waters, M.Inst.C.E., 25, Temple-row, Birmingham. Dep. £3 3s.

MARCH 27.

Sunderland C.B.—Sinking of borehole at Highfield Institution. J. E. Lewis, B.E. Dep. £2 2s.

APRIL 5.

Whittingham County Mental Hospital.—Construction of reinforced concrete water tower and provision and laying of approx. 1,000 yds. of cast-iron water mains, etc. H. B. Ward, M.Inst.C.E., Consulting E., 38, Hoghton-st., Southport. Dep. £5 5s.

APRIL 17.

Kingston-upon-Hull T.C.—Construction of reinforced concrete forebay in River Humber and 650 lin. yds. of 9 ft. 6 in. dia. brick and concrete outfall sewer. City E. Dep. £10 to City Treas.

ROAD, SEWERAGE AND WATER WORKS

MARCH 20.

Maldon and Coombe T.C.—Tar spraying and gritting of roads. B.E.

MARCH 22.

Harpenden U.D.C.—Tar spraying of roads. S.

MARCH 24.

Woodhall Spa U.D.C.—Surface dressing. S.

MARCH 29.

Wembley T.C.—Reinstatement of paving and kerbing. B.E. Dep. £1 1s.

APRIL 1.

Berwick-on-Tweed T.C.—Road surface tar-spraying. B.S.

APRIL 3.

Hinckley U.D.C.—Excavation and refilling of trenches for laying of approx. 4½ miles of 6-in. cast-iron water main pipes. J. S. Featherston, Waterworks E., 9, Station-rd.

Petworth R.D.C.—For approx. 3,650 yds. of spun-iron mains, 4 in. and 3 in. dia., together with special castings, valves, hydrants, etc. N. Green, Water E. Dep. £1 1s.

APRIL 6.

Mid-Sussex Joint Water Board.—Supply and laying of approx. 1,230 yds. of 12-in. cast-iron water main. W. H. Ashmole, M.Inst.M.&Cy.E., E. and Manager, Boltro-rd., Haywards Heath, Sussex. Dep. £2 2s.

ROAD MATERIALS, ETC.

MARCH 20.

Redcar T.C.—B.E.

MARCH 22.

Burgess Hill U.D.C.—E. and S.
Weymouth and Melcombe Regis T.C.—B.S.

MARCH 25.

Ashford (Kent) U.D.C.—S.

MARCH 27.

Solihull U.D.C.—E. and S.

MARCH 28.

Ebbw Vale U.D.C.—E. and S.

APRIL 4.

Abercarn U.D.C.—Architect and S.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

MARCH 20.

Herts C.C.—Full-time Teacher at Junior Day Technical School in Building, Watford. Forms from Principal, Watford Technical and Art Institute.

Newcastle-on-Tyne E.C. — Appointment of Headmaster at Junior Technical School of Building Crafts. £550-£25-£700, plus war allowance. Forms from Thos. Walling, D. of E., City Ed. Office, Northumberland-rd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Sevenoaks R.D.C. — Temporary full-time Accounts Assistant (male). £300 p.a., plus war bonus. Clerk to the Council.

MARCH 23.

Northern Polytechnic. — Full-time post of Teacher of Building, Construction and Allied Subjects. Particulars from Clerk to the Governing Body, Holloway-rd., London, N.7.

Northern Polytechnic.—Full-time Teacher of Carpentry and Joinery and Plumbing. Particulars from Clerk to the Governing Body, Holloway-rd., London, N.7.

MARCH 25.

***Doncaster E.C.**—Full-time Teacher of Building Subjects at Junior Technical School. Application forms (stamped and addressed foolscap envelope) from V. Clark, Chief Ed. Officer.

***Somerset C.C.**—Temporary Class II Architectural Assistant. £310-£10-£350, plus war bonus, £30 p.a. R. O. Harris (A.), County Architect, Park-st., Taunton.

MARCH 28.

Leeds E.C.—Full-time Lecturer at College of Technology. Forms from George Guest, D. of E., Ed. Offices, Leeds, 1.

MARCH 31.

West Sussex C.C.—(1) Teacher of Building Subjects at Horsham Building School; (2) Two Masters at Worthing Building School. Forms from D. of E., County Hall, Chichester.

APRIL 3.

***Essex E.C.**—Applications invited for post of Lecturer in Building Subjects. For forms of application apply, enclosing stamped and addressed envelope to Clerk to Governors, South-East Essex Technical College and School of Art, Longbridge-rd., Dagenham, Essex.

***Hornsey B.C.**—Temporary Assistant (either sex) in Boro. E. Dept. £300-£500. Applications to Ministry of Labour and National Service, Central (Technical and Scientific) Register, Advertising Section, Alexandra House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, for necessary forms. Quote ref. No. E848XA.

GENERAL BUILDING WORK

Ashington.—M.O.W. to erect hostel for mine-workers.

Ashton-in-Makerfield. — U.D.C. approved alterations and additions at Stanley House farm for M. Brindle.

Chester-le-Street.—Cinema to be erected to plans by Edwin Lawson, Barras-bldgs., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Durham.—City Council propose improvements at Wharton Park, at £170, and erection of 'bus shelters and conveniences, at £600.

Gateshead.—B.E. prepared scheme for additional accommodation at Half Moon-la., for Magistrates' Clerk, at £800.

Gateshead. — E.C. propose scullery at Brighton-av. school, at £280. Plans by F. H. Patterson, B.E.

Lancashire.—E.C. propose restoration of domestic subjects centre and erection of prefabricated building for four classes at Landerrd. school, Litherland, at £1,350. Plans by A. T. Nicholson, County Architect, County-bldgs., Fishergate-hill, Preston.—E.C. to acquire sites for new schools.

Manchester.—T.C. approved: Erection of annexes in quadrangles at New Moston school, for E.C.; social hall, Victoria-av., Blackley, and Walker-rd., for Rev. W. Tonge, St. Paul's Rectory, Erskine-rd., Higher Blackley; conversion of 127, Palatine-rd., West Didsbury, for S. Anari, E. L. Doyle, architect, 26, Hollins-la., Marple Bridge, Marple, Ches; conversion of Invercoe, Edge-la., Chorlton-cum-Hardy, into two flats, for Sir Percy Macdonald, H. S. Fairhurst & Son, Chancery-chbrs., 55, Brown-st., architects.—T.C. propose reconstruction of Free Trade Hall, Peter-st. Plans by G. Noel Hill (F.), City Architect.

Matlock.—U.D.C. to proceed with erection of 'bus station.

Nantwich.—Rev. J. Tyler Whittle and Parochial Church Council of Parish Church propose restoration scheme.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—J. H. Napper, 27, Eastwood-gdns., Newcastle-on-Tyne, prepared plans for alterations at Eldon-pl. Wilson & Wilson, 7, Westcroft-rd., Forest Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are architects for converting No. 11 Akenside-ter., Jesmond, into flats for M. J. Liddell & Sons.

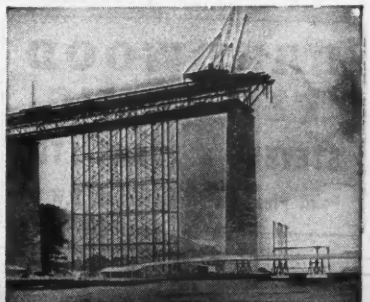
Northumberland.—C.C. proposes extensions at Ashington Mining school.

Northampton.—Committee of Y.M.C.A. propose adaptation of Dover Hall for hostel.—Board of Governors of General Hospital, Billing-rd., propose alterations and additions to X-ray Department, at £2,000.

Notts.—E.C. propose erection of sculleries at Hucknall Spring-st., and Hucknall Butlers Hill schools.

Ormskirk.—Committee of Comrades' Club propose headquarters.

South Shields.—Howard Hill, Winchester-st., South Shields, prepared plans for pump-house, and for conversion of residence at Westoe-rd. into flats, for J. T. Vasey.



AFTER THE WAR, THE PLAN; AFTER THE PLAN, BIG BEN STEEL SCAFFOLDING TO BUILD A BETTER BRITAIN . .

The
STEEL SCAFFOLDING CO. LTD.,
82, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W.1

Stockport.—T.C. propose: Repairs at St. Petersgate Baths; repairs at Nurses' Home, Mile End-rd., Stepping Hill Hospital; additional accommodation at Children's Homes.

Sunderland.—T.C. seeking authority to erect immediately 1,000 prefabricated houses at Springwell Farm estate and another 1,000 on other sites. Plans by J. E. Lewis, B.E.

Sunderland.—G. T. Brown & Son, Fawcett-st., Sunderland, prepared plans for garage and canteen.

Warrington.—T.C. propose extensions of Municipal buildings for accommodation of Borough Treasurer's Department

Warwickshire.—E.C. propose prefabricated building as extensions at Lode-la. school, Solihull.

Wigan.—E.C. propose extensions at Junior Technical school of Mining and Technical College, at £4,000.

Wolverhampton.—E.C. propose two new schools.

York.—Committee of Governors of Archbishop Holgate Grammar school propose adaptation of "Brook House" as extensions, at £5,068.

BRITISH RESTAURANTS AND CANTEENS

Ashton-in-Makerfield.—U.D.C. approved canteen for Penelope Mill Co., Ltd.

Bedworth.—U.D.C. propose conversion of King's Hall into B.R. Plans by N. D. Martin, S.

Brechin.—Plans in the hands of the County School Education Authority for school cooking depot.

Chesterfield.—Hardwick Colliery Co., Ltd., propose canteen at Ramcroft colliery.

Durham.—Canteen to be built at Edemore colliery. Plans by R. Burke, Singleton House, Northumberland-rd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Lancashire.—E.C. propose adaptations and equipment for school dining centres at Kearsley Meals kitchen, at £504; Little Lever Senior school, at £230; Prestwich "Woodthorpe" cooking depot, at £285; Huyton Hostel site cooking depot, at £304; Ormskirk Senior school, at £180; and Maghull Hostel site cooking depot, at £335. Plans by A. T. Nicholson, County Architect, County-bldgs., Fishergate Hill, Preston.

Lancaster.—T.C. approved dining centre at Cathedral Junior school. Plans by F. Hill, City E.

Manchester.—T.C. approved: Canteen to laundry, Levenshulme, for Paragon Dyers and Cleaners, Ltd.; meals kitchen at Green End schools, Burnage; main kitchen to canteen at works, G. Grenfield Baines (F.), architect, 12-24, Guildhall-st., Preston.

Scarborough.—T.C. considering B.R. at Queen-st. Plans by J. V. Overfield, B.S.

A.R.P. SCHEMES

PROVINCIAL.

Cheshire.—E.C. approved estimates of £1,000 for maintenance, etc., of school shelters.

Northwich.—R.D.C. propose public mortuary. Plans by J. Birtwistle, S.

Oldham.—T.C. received approval of Regional Commissioner for provision of 77 static water tanks, at £616.—T.C. propose conversion of Great Eastern hotel, Yorkshire, for main wardens' post at Mumps.

Salford.—T.C. propose installation of static water tanks on sites at 16 points.—Gas Committee propose construction of two shelters.

Stockport.—T.C. propose provision of sector points at three schools.

TENDERS

Tenders for A.R.P. work will be found under "A.R.P. Schemes."

* Denotes *accepted.*
† Denotes *provisionally accepted.*
‡ Denotes *recommended for acceptance.*
§ Denotes *accepted subject to modification.*
¶ Denotes *accepted by H.M. Government departments.*

Glasgow.—For alterations and additions at St. Mary's Church Halls for new school buildings, for Corporation: *Morris & Spottiswood, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

Kensington.—For repairs to properties, for B.C.: Blocks A, D, E, G, F, Coleherne Court: *Leslie & Co., Ltd., £2,299; two flats, Coleherne Court: *F. D. & H. Head, Ltd., £299.

¶London (Air Ministry).—List of new contracts to value of £500 or over for week ended March 11.

Civil engineering work: Richard Costain, Ltd., London, S.W.1; Dowsett Engineering Construction, Ltd., Malvern, Worcs; Tilbury Construction Co., Ltd., London, S.W.1; Fitzpatrick & Son (Ctts.), Ltd., London, E.3.

General maintenance work: R. W. Bell & Co. (Builders), Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Day & Son (Builders), Ltd., Walton-on-Thames; A. J. Styles, Ltd., London, S.W.19; Percy Bilton, Ltd., London, W.1; Comben & Wakeling, Ltd., Harrow, Middx; Gilbert Cole

Estates, Ltd., Northampton; Dudley Coles, Plymouth.

Heating and hot water supply work: Brightside Foundry & Eng. Co., Ltd., Birmingham.

Building work: D. Anderson & Son, Ltd., Manchester; Francis Jackson Developments, Ltd., Northwood, Middx; G. H. Miller & Co., Ltd., London, E.7.

Agricultural work: Shorters Construction Co., Ltd., London, N.W.11.

Painting work: Amalgamated Building Cttrs., Ltd., London, S.W.1.

Installation work: Beck & Co., London, S.E.1.

Well-boring work: Le Grand Sutcliffe & Gell, Ltd., Southall, Middx.

Drainage work: Clark Bros., Swindon, Wilts.

Road work: Cartledge & Son, Ltd., Grimsby.

¶London (Ministry of Works). — Contracts placed by M.O.W. during week-ending March 9:—

London: Building work, Kent & Sussex Contractors, Ltd., Carlton-rd., Erith, Kent.

Derbyshire; Building work, Wm. J. Wildgoose & Sons, Ltd., Industrial Works, Matlock, Derby; Paul Rhodes, Ltd., Cardigan-la., Leeds.

Glos: Building work, W. Cowlin & Sons, Ltd., Stratton-st., Bristol.

Herefordshire: Building work, Spicers (Builders) Ltd., Ombersley-rd., Worcester.

Lancs: Civil engineering, London, Midland & Scottish Railway Co., Watford, Herts; building work, R. & W. Gregson, Milk-st., Tyldesley, Lancs.

Middx; Building work, C. & A. Catchpole, Leighton House, Potters Bar.

Staffs: Building work, Eadie & Co. (W/ton), Ltd., 29, Waterloo-rd., Wolverhampton; Parsons & Morrin, 133, Belgrave-rd., Birmingham; Deacon & Boardman, Ltd., Algernon-st., Walsall, Staffs.

Warwickshire: Building work, C. Greens & Sons, 132, Monument-rd., Birmingham.

Yorks: Building work, Wm. Birch & Sons, Spen-la., York; Bryant & Son, Ltd., Whitmore-rd., Birmingham; Walter Firth, Ltd., Armthorpe-rd., Armthorpe, nr. Doncaster, Yorks.

¶London (War Dept.).—Works contracts placed by War Dept. for week ended March 4:—

Lanarkshire: Miscellaneous work, Robert Loudon, Ltd., Glasgow, S.

Suffolk: Miscellaneous work, H. A. Holmes & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth; The Bury St. Edmunds Development Co., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds.

London: Hutting (erection), H. C. Leach, Waltham Cross, Herts.

Kent: Concrete work, Foots Milne & Co., Ltd., Margate.

Middlesbrough.—Sanitary alterations at Victoria-rd. school, for E.C.: *E. T. Sweeting, Ltd., Middlesbrough, £109.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Erection of sub-station for Transport Dept. City Architect, 18, Cloth Market: *J. E. Gardner, Gateshead, £900; erection of bakery, for H. Buglass: *W. Smelt, 31, Parkside-av., Newcastle-on-Tyne; erection of motor repair shop, for Lees Bakeries, Ltd.: *W. W. Kelsey, Hanover-sq., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Scalby.—For certain building additions at Moor-la. depot, for U.D.C. Building: *A. W. Sinclair & Sons, 80, Commercial-st., Scarborough. Heating: *H. Pickup, Ltd., Roscoe-st., Scarborough; £1,206.

York.—For repair and adaptations at Holgate-rd., Queen Anne's-rd., Bishopsgate-st., and Huntington-rd, for T.C. Charles J. Minter, City Engineer and Architect, Guildhall. 114, Holgate-rd.: *G. H. Robinson, 51, Holgate-rd., York, £287; 57, Huntington-rd.: *Sorrell (York), Ltd., 37a, Emerald-st., York, £274; 26, Bishopsgate-st.: *Wm. Birch & Sons, Ltd., Spen-la., York, £185; 42, Queen Anne's-rd.: *Wm. Birch & Sons, Ltd., £287.

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